

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Treasury unveils  
\$50 bill with  
a facelift**

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**IRR soldiers  
who fail to show  
may be punished**

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**Parcells, Cowboys  
keep upper hand  
in rivalry**

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

50¢

## Expo opens with details on Army transformation



■ Bell offers glimpse at future

■ Displays show off new gear

■ Officers rebuff author's Germany comments

RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

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Richard Walunas, right, helps Staff Sgt. Upuese Galoia try on body armor being developed for future soldiers by the U.S. Army Natick Soldier System Center in Natick, Mass., at the USAREUR Land Combat Expo on Tuesday in Heidelberg, Germany.

## STARS &amp; STRIPES

COMING  
SOON

Knights

Scene on Sunday

Katie Holmes is  
'First Daughter'

Scene on Sunday

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## TODAY IN STRIPES

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Artificial heart death:** An Indiana man who lived with an implanted artificial heart for 147 days has died, the heart manufacturer said.

Danvers, Mass.-based Abiomed Inc., maker of the AbioCor artificial heart, said Don Graham, 73, of New Albany, Ind., died Sunday "of causes related to device operation."

A statement released Monday by Abiomed did not elaborate on the cause.

Graham was the 13th AbioCor patient and the sixth to receive the implant at Jewish Hospital in Louisville, Ky.

**Peterson trial:** Scott Peterson's defense called a witness to suggest that his pregnant wife's abduction and murder may have been the result of mistaken identity — a crime carried out by perpetrators seeking to attack a woman who looked just like Laci Peterson.

Defense lawyer Mark Geragos noted Monday in Redwood City, Calif., during questioning of Modesto police Detective Craig Grogan that authorities had received a tip early on from a woman whom the lawyer only identified as "Michelle" about the possibility that Laci's killing may have been a mistake.

**Clergy rape charges:** Former Springfield, Mass., Bishop Thomas L. Dupre won't have to answer to charges that he raped two boys in Massachusetts, but his legal problems didn't disappear when the district attorney said he won't prosecute him.

Hampden County District Attorney William M. Bennett said Monday he can't pursue the case against the 70-year-old bishop because the statute of limitations has run out in Massachusetts.

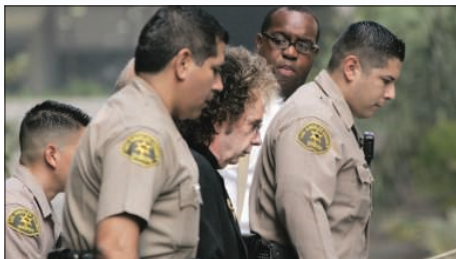
But Bennett said he will hand over everything that a grand jury investigation turned up to federal authorities.

**Abortion doctor shooting:** A man who confessed to shooting an abortion provider did so only to win the release of a woman who helped him evade capture, his lawyer argued Monday in seeking to have the confession thrown out in his upcoming trial in Buffalo, N.Y.

The lawyer, John Humann, said James Kopp's confession was the result of a deal between Kopp's former attorney and the government that trumped on Kopp's rights. The former attorney, Bruce Barket, was also representing the woman, Loretta Marna, at the time Kopp made the statements to reporters, Humann said.

**Right-to-die case:** The parents of a woman in the center of a right-to-die dispute said Monday they will continue fighting to keep her alive despite a recent legal setback, and are putting their hopes on winning a new trial in a Thursday court hearing.

Bob and Mary Schindler were dealt a



**Phil Spector charges:** Music producer Phil Spector, center, is escorted by his Los Angeles County Sheriff deputies Monday in Los Angeles after an indictment charging him with murder in the 2003 death of B-movie actress Lana Clarkson at his Alhambra, Calif., mansion, was unsealed. Spector, 64, rallied at prosecutors after the indictment was read Monday in court. Outside, Spector compared District Attorney Steve Cooley to Adolf Hitler. "The actions of the Hitler-like DA and his storm trooper henchmen are reprehensible, unconscionable and despicable," said Spector, who remains free on \$1 million bail.

blow last week when the state Supreme Court struck down a law rushed through the Legislature last fall to reconnect the feeding tube of their daughter six days after it was removed.

The court said lawmakers and Gov. Jeb Bush, who pushed for the law, had no right to get involved in the case of 40-year-old Terri Schiavo, who a judge has determined is in a "persistent vegetative state."

**D.C.-area sniper attacks:** Convicted teenage sniper Lee Boyd Malvo formally agreed Monday to plead guilty to a second slaying and a wounding during the October 2002 shooting spree that left 10 people dead, his lawyer said.

Malvo will accept a sentence of life in prison without possibility of parole and plead guilty to capital murder for killing Kenneth Bridges and attempted capital murder for wounding Caroline Sewell, attorney Craig Cooley said.

## World

**Human embryo cloning:** One of the creators of Dolly the sheep, the world's first mammal cloned from an adult, said Tuesday he was seeking permission to create cloned human embryos for medical research.

Ian Wilmut, who led the team that created Dolly at Scotland's Roslin Institute in 1996, said he had applied for a license from the government to clone cells from sufferers of motor neuron disease to discover how the debilitating condition develops.

**Russia-U.S. extradition dispute:** The U.S. ambassador to Russia said that Moscow and

Washington stand united in the fight against global terror and sought to soothe Russia's anger over U.S. asylum for a Chechen rebel envoy, according to an interview published Tuesday.

Russia has angrily criticized the United States for granting asylum to Ilyas Akhmedov, an envoy for Chechen rebel leader Aslan Maskhadov, and also flumed at Britain which gave refugee status to another Maskhadov envoy, Akhmed Zakayev.

## Business

**WorldCom deal:** U.S. telecom giant WorldCom, now called MCI Inc., won a moral victory Tuesday when a European court ruled that European Union antitrust regulators should not have issued an order blocking its aborted bid in 2000 for rival Sprint Corp.

Although the companies have no intention of reviving their aborted tie-up, which was also opposed in Washington, the decision makes it easier for MCI to pursue any future deals by wiping the regulatory slate clean in Europe.

**Enron scandal:** Three British bankers indicted in Texas on fraud charges involving Enron Corp. appeared in a London court Tuesday for an extradition hearing.

U.S. authorities are seeking the extradition of David Bermingham, Giles Darby and Gary Mulgrew. The three men, former employees of the National Westminster Bank, were charged in the United States in 2002 with bilking the bank of \$7.5 million in a scheme allegedly engineered by Andrew Fastow, former finance chief of the collapsed energy firm Enron. Each faces seven counts of wire fraud.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## Correction

A story in Tuesday's editions about the Labor Department clarifying regulations protecting the jobs of reservists returning from the war omitted some information. The name of the law is the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994.

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# Commander offers look into Army's future

## Speakers give more transformation details during Land Combat Expo

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — The Army is drawing up plans for a new Black Sea-based Eastern European Task Force built along the same lines as the rapid-reaction Southern European Task Force now based in Italy.

That's just one of the items offered Tuesday by the commander of Army forces in Europe as he opened the Land Combat Expo with the most-detailed glimpse yet of what his command will look like in the years ahead as the Army withdraws tens of thousands of troops while redistributing others to new outposts to the south and east.

In what Gen. B.B. Bell dubbed a "10-year march in the future," the Army in Europe will shrink from 62,000 troops to about 20,000, while returning 1st Armored and 1st Infantry Divisions to the United States and merging his headquarters with V Corps.

That much was already known. Opening the expo, Bell filled in several new details, including:

■ The 20 existing separate brigades under Bell's U.S. Army Europe and V Corps will be consolidated into seven brigade-size "units of action." Meanwhile, the Army's current finance, support and personnel commands will merge into a single "support command."

■ The 21st Theater Support Command, the Army's main logistics unit for Europe, will downshift from a two-star command to a one-star command.

■ While other units leave, Bell said he expects an "early arrival" for a new Stryker Brigade to be stationed in Europe. That brigade will be based at the Army's training center at Grafenwohr, where new barracks and family housing are being built.

■ The Army in Europe will shift from the dominant service in Europe with nearly 60 percent of the 107,000 troops now assigned to EUCOM, to about 36 percent of the some 66,000 troops remaining. That will put it behind the Air Force, which is expected



Bell

to end up with about 27,000 troops in Europe, or 42 percent of the EUCOM total.

The Army force structure that remains in Europe by 2014, said Bell, "is going to be much more effective in this part of the world than my current force."

Although highlighting the contributions his mostly heavy armor and mechanized infantry units have made in Iraq, Bell said,



Jones

"armor has minimal use in this theater."

"I wish I had more forces that were more relevant for this theater," added Bell. "For an armor guy to come to that conclusion after three years, that's a big statement."

"Now, none of you armor commanders walk away, but I believe that Stryker Brigade could take your armored division on and

walk away with a win," said Bell, drawing a "Bring 'em on" from the 1st Armored Division commander, Maj. Gen. Martin Dempsey.

Regarding the new Eastern European Task Force that Bell wants to build, he said, "We're looking at a task force to the east that's something like SETAF."

Unlike the Italy-based headquarters, which has its own brigade of infantry assigned to it, Bell said he will use the new EETAF as a headquarters to oversee rotational brigades coming from the United States.

Marine Gen. James L. Jones, who followed Bell's presentation, said rotational forces were critical for transformation efforts.

The Army hopes to rotate brigade-size units into Europe on a six-month basis.

"It's a deal breaker," Jones told the audience. "We will need rotational forces... in order to be strategically effective."

Jones told Stars and Stripes that rotational forces in Europe are predicated on force levels in Iraq and Afghanistan drawing down.

"We won't be able to do until that happens," he said.

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## Peters talks — but not everyone agrees

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Top military leaders rebutted the comments of a controversial author and guest speaker at the Army's Land Combat Expo in Heidelberg, in the wake of a series of harshly critical statements he's made about Germans.

Ralph Peters, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, wrote a column for the New York Post last month describing the

U.S. military's 15,000-strong German work force as lazy and arrogant. In recent statements, he's also attacked Germany's contribution to the NATO alliance and the war on terror and accused the German army of still harboring a "deep fascist streak" for boycotting the expo in protest of his comments.

"I fundamentally disagree with Mr. Peters' assessment of my work force," said Gen. B.B. Bell, commander of U.S. Army Europe.

"I am extremely proud of the work force I have over here. Our German hosts, our German work force, our German citizenry have been extraordinarily accommodating to U.S. forces over here for the last several years."

Bell, however, stood by his decision to invite Peters to speak at the expo.

"I invited Mr. Peters to come here and talk about terrorism. He is one of the recognized commentators on the insidious threat of terrorism around the world. He has a lot to offer," Bell said.

Bell had been under pressure by German labor groups to withdraw his invitation to Peters.

Bell reiterated those comments at the close of Peters' presentation Tuesday at the expo before a standing-room-only crowd. A contingent of military police checked bags as troops, U.S. and German civilians filed into the room.

German police were also on hand.

SEE PETERS ON PAGE 4

## Expo shows off what's next in warfighting wear

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Every bit helps when a soldier's life is at stake.

"It would be nice for the guys downrange to have some of this stuff now so they'd have a little more of an advantage than we did," said Pfc. Harry Reed, fresh off a 15-month deployment in Iraq, as he checked out the new gear on display Tuesday at the Land Combat Expo 2004.

The expo, which runs through Thursday at the Village Pavilion at Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg, features dozens of

booths with futuristic uniforms, the latest ideas on Meals, Ready to Eat and other things needed by soldiers on the battlefield.

There are also panels of troops discussing the latest news in the business of warfighting and presentations by experts. Military personnel and other Department of Defense identification card holders and guests are able to attend.

Reed, of Catawissa, Mo., and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, made the trip from Baumholder with other soldiers from the 1st Artillery Division.

SEE WEAR ON PAGE 4



RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Raul Lopez, center, models a concept uniform being developed for soldiers of the future by the U.S. Army Natick Soldier System Center in Natick, Mass., at the Land Combat Expo Tuesday in Heidelberg, Germany.

Right: John Krollpfeiffer stands by a tank model, a creation of the Production Branch, General Support Center-Rodelheim. The tank was on display at the USAREUR Land Combat Expo in Heidelberg, Germany, on Tuesday.

Below: Sgt. Nigel Gomez, left, and Pvt. David Brickhouse answer questions about a Patriot Missile Launching Station at the expo.

PHOTOS BY  
RAYMOND T. CONWAY  
Stars and Stripes



## Wear: Expo exhibits future of combat

WEAR, FROM PAGE 3

Spec. Eric Speck of Marysville, Pa., and the 2-3, said that soldiers discover what they need when

they're downrange, doing their work in real-life situations.

"We got CamelBaks out there after a while," Speck said. "And it would have been good to have tas-

ters to control detainees and irate Iraqis. You don't want to [wrestle them] with all the gear we're carrying."

Uniforms of the future were being displayed by the U.S. Army Soldier Center of Natick, Mass.

Pants to be worn in the field for days at a time have zippers in the

seat and up the legs so soldiers will be able to wash themselves more easily. Back pockets will be located at the upper hamstring so they are easier to reach.

Boots would fit like sneakers but grip better, protect as well as the current boots and repel water and mud.

Helmets will have a combined infrared and night-vision scope, microphones inside the headband for increased hearing, and a Styrofoam interior and redesigned exterior for better protection.

They will be a little lighter and a little smaller, and they will be hooked up to a small computer that a soldier carries to make it all work.

The uniform is expected to be ready around 2007, the helmet around 2012, according to the soldier center's Dan Harshman.

"The overall goal is for every soldier to become a node on this digital battlefield," Harshman said. "So [commanders] can not only see, but digitally see, where every soldier, every fast-moving vehicle or aircraft is located."

Chow is also changing.

Operations Desert Storm and

Desert Shield resulted in a flood of feedback about the MREs that troops use to sustain themselves, according to Diane M. Wood, who is in charge of the soldier center's "combat feeding" office.

"High energy, easy to eat, eat on the move," Wood said.

A current three-pack of MREs that weighs 7½ pounds gets field-stripped; that is, troops get rid of some items and trade others, Wood said.

The new First Strike ration weighs 5 pounds less but includes three sandwiches, Hooah high-energy nutrition bars, beef jerky, caffeinated gum, carbohydrate drinks and carbohydrate-enhanced applesauce.

"There's no preparation, no heater, no spoon," Wood said. "Everything here is easy to eat."

"These are the types of food that guys in the field strip down to."

Pvt. Charles Jernigan of Palmer, Alaska, and the 40th Engineering Battalion, 1st Armored Division, said the current MREs taste pretty good.

"The biggest problem with some of the meals comes with coffee or tea as the only beverage," Jernigan said. "It's better when they have a container of grape juice or something like that."

"Coffee takes time to prepare. Tea bags require heating. Instant tea like Lipton — I'll drink that because sometimes I don't have a lot of time to prepare the drinks."

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## Peters: Bell and Jones see things differently

PETERS, FROM PAGE 3

"I celebrate the free press," Bell told Peters, "but my view of the German people is vastly different from what you put in that article."

Peters briefly defended his column and was careful to dance around offering an apology.

If anyone has been painted unfairly, he said, "certainly they deserve an apology."

Later he told Stars and Stripes, "I chose my words carefully, that was not apology."

The uproar has left Army officials concerned for Peters' safety. Bell's spokeswoman said Peters has been assigned a "personal security detachment" during his stay in Germany.

Meanwhile, Marine Gen. James L. Jones, the top commander of forces in Europe and military chief of NATO, said he was "disappointed" in Peters' comments.

"He's certainly entitled to his opinion, but I don't think he has his facts straight," Jones told Stripes.

Jones, for example, disputed Peters' assertion in his Post column that Berlin had "come close" to blocking U.S. units in Germany from deployment. "That never happened," Jones said.

Jones also added that he didn't blame the German contingent for boycotting the expo.

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RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes  
Author Ralph Peters speaks about 21st Century Warfare at the USAREUR Land Combat Expo in Heidelberg, Germany, on Monday.





# Blogs becoming public letters home from Iraq's front line

BY ELLEN SIMON

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Spc. Colby Buzzell's squad was on a mission in a poor neighborhood in Mosul when two Iraqi boys ran up carrying old artillery shells. "Give me dollar!" they said.

Another came carrying bullets and demanding money.

"Then, all of a sudden, this really skinny Iraqi kid comes running up to us with a f— HAND GRENADE in his hand," Buzzell wrote on his war blog. "Drop the f— hand grenade! Drop it now!" We all started yelling. The little kid, still with this proud smile on his face that said, "Look what I just found!" just dropped the grenade on the ground, and walked over to my squad leader and said, "Give me money!"

The grenade didn't go off. The squad leader explained to him that an Army division that had been in the area earlier had paid children for weapons or unexploded ordnance.

For Buzzell, it was grist for his online war diary, <http://cbftw.blogspot.com>, whose fans range from soccer moms and truck drivers to punk band leader Jello Biafra. Before the counter dropped off the site, says Buzzell, he was getting 5,000 hits a day.

Iraq war blogs are as varied as the soldiers who write them. Some sites feature practical news, pictures and advice. Some are overtly political, with more slanting to the right than the left.

Some question the war, some cheer it.

Buzzell and a handful of others write unvarnished war reporting. A few of these blogs have been shut down, and Buzzell, an infantryman in an Army Stryker brigade, says he was banned from missions for five days because of the blog and has stopped adding new narrative entries.

For the folks back home, soldier blogs offer details of war that don't make it into most news dispatches: The smell of rotten milk

lingering in a poor neighborhood. The shepherd boys sitting at the foot of a guard tower yelling requests for toothbrushes and sweets.

The giant camel spiders. The tedium of long walks to get anything from a shower to a meal. A burning oil refinery a hundred miles away blocking the sun. A terrifying night raid surprised by armed enemies dressed in black.

On the blogs, soldiers complain, commiserate and celebrate their victories and ingenuity.

What do you do if the electricity goes out while you're sitting in the latrine, leaving you in complete darkness with a dead flashlight? Blog answer: Reach into your cargo pocket and crack open a Chemlight.

The blogs offer more than war stories, they offer images from Iraq not seen elsewhere, like a sign in an office with no air conditioning: "We're in the desert. The desert is hot. Now quit your whining." and a sign on a truck, presum-



Navy corpsman Sean Dustman writes a blog called "Doc in the Box," displayed last week on the desktop computer screen on the right. Now at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., Dustman used the laptop at left while in the field in Iraq. The laptop displays Marine homecoming photos taken at the base earlier in the week.

ably driven by National Guardsmen: "Two weekends a month, my a—"

Sean Dustman, a 32-year-old Navy corpsman from Prescott, Ariz., started writing his blog, <http://docinthebox.blogspot.com>, after reading other war blogs.

"I was entranced with their stories," said Dustman, who recently returned from six months in Iraq. "This was where the real news that mattered to me was coming from, unlike what you saw through the regular media. Reading them (the blogs) helped me and my Marines prepare for the trip."

Dustman started a photo blog, where he'd post pictures of his unit. Relatives visited religiously — and let him know with instant feedback when he wasn't getting new pictures up fast enough. One comment: "Where is my Cody?!"

Other bloggers encouraged him to write more than photo captions, so he did.

In April, Dustman wrote about flying over Baghdad. "At night there's hardly a light that there's not someone shooting at you."

"They can't see the aircraft (hopefully), but as soon as they hear one coming, they come out and shoot into the air. Mainly they're hoping to get a lucky shot in. A tracer flies by a window and we're banking and rolling, which is kinda like gambling, they can't see us, we can't see them either, a great game of Battleship in the sky."

Leaving Iraq, he gave a litany of advice for soldiers heading there.

"The biggest way to save money on a trip to Iraq is to have a quality battery charger," he began. Later, he wrote, "Be nice to everyone. Remember, everyone is armed ..."

A recurring theme is the flashes of military absurdity, such as the hurried martial arts training some Marines undergo before they leave Iraq.

One blogger said his platoon is

trying "to qualify everyone in the company for the next belt level in, like, fifteen days with only one instructor (the other having gone slightly nuts and been shipped off for everyone's safety.)" The blogger asked that his name and screen name not be used because he feared disciplinary action.

While some military bloggers (or milbloggers) say their commanders have encouraged their online literary ventures, a few say their commanders have shut them down.

Jason Hartley called his blog "Just Another Soldier" and wrote unflinchingly about everything from his buddies' families to the conditions on base.

"I think I've been duped," he wrote from a base in October 2003, while his unit was preparing to go to Iraq. "I'm not actually at a modern US military installation, but Sing Sing, circa 1940."

"My commander had a meltdown when he discovered it," Hartley, a sergeant in the New York National Guard, said of his blog in an instant message. "He demanded I take it down."

The Pentagon has "no specific guidelines on blogging per se," said Cheryl Irwin, a Defense Department spokeswoman. "Generally, they can do it if they are writing their blogs not on government time and not on a government computer. They have every right under the First Amendment to say any darn thing they want to say unless they reveal classified information, and then it becomes an issue as a security violation."

Military bloggers say they're careful not to reveal any information that would be useful to enemies. "Nowhere do either blog say where I was or give out full names of anybody but myself," Dustman said.

Dustman also said, "Most people do have their minds made up about the war, but bloggers let them know that we're human too, just like them. We're the best way for the public to take a pulse on how we're handling the situation."



## MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD!

Most people agree that we each have the right to full access to the information and services we need to make the most of our time overseas. Stars and Stripes wants to listen to our readers, and is asking for volunteers to join us for a series of 90-minute Focus Groups to be held October 2004 at Wuerzburg, Kaiserslautern and Heidelberg. Eligible participants include Active-Duty, DoD Civilians and Family Members.

**Below are two things you can start doing today to be heard.**



Take the first step and sign up by sending us your name, base, rank, and day/evening telephone numbers to [marketing@starsandstripes.com](mailto:marketing@starsandstripes.com).



Join us for 90 minutes in October and make your voice heard.

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Note: One member of each group will win a 3 Mega Pixel Digital Camera!

# Destined Glory exercise to kick off near Sardinia

## 11 nations participating in joint training

BY JASON CHUDY

Stars and Stripes

NATO's largest amphibious and maritime exercise, Destined Glory, kicks off Thursday near Sardinia and will run through Oct. 16.

"[Destined Glory] enables NATO and the eight countries ... with Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO to collectively train their personnel in a live-fire exercise," said exercise spokesman Royal Navy Lt. Craig Moran.

About 9,500 personnel on some 50 ships and 46 aircraft from 11 countries are taking part in the exercise at two locations along the southern Sardinian coast.

"Notable this year is that there are additional countries taking part other than the eight that are collectively part of STRIKFOR-NATO," he said.

The eight are Germany,

Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. The other participating countries are Belgium, France and Canada.

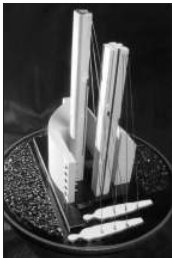
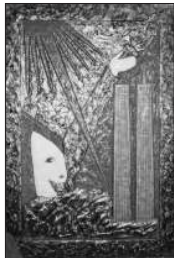
Nearly 200 U.S. personnel will be participating in Destined Glory, including the U.S. Navy's Lance Cpl. Roy M. Wheat, a container and roll-on/roll-off ship, and P-3 Orion maritime patrol aircraft from Patrol Squadron 16.

This year's exercise is also the first major test of NATO's multinational quick response force, which was created last October.

The British aircraft carrier HMS Invincible also is taking part, along with landing forces from Spain, Italy, the Netherlands and France.

Normally held annually, the last Destined Glory took place off both Sardinia and Greece in 2002.

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.strips.com



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Army

Three Italian artists presented their artwork to the U.S. community at Caserma Ederle to express support for the United States and to honor the victims and heroes of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Left: Francesco Marchetti's painting depicts New York City's Twin Towers. Center: Marcello Campagnolo's painting depicts the Twin Towers. Right: Renato Baggio's sculpture depicts the World Trade Center towers.

## Italian artists donate work honoring 9/11 victims, heroes

Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — There was a massive show of sympathy and support for the United States across Europe following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

There still are signs of it today. Three part-time artists from the Veneto region, which includes Vicenza, donated work to the nearest American community to

them Tuesday — Caserma Ederle and the Southern European Task Force (Airborne).

Renato Baggio, a schoolteacher from Carmignano di Brenta; Marcello Campagnolo, a factory worker from Cittadella; and Francesco Marchetti, a factory worker from Tezze sul Brenta, presented two paintings and a wooden sculpture.

Each depicts an image of the World Trade Center.

"They took their time, effort and money to do this for the American community," said Italian army Capt. Stefano Shaccanti, a base public affairs officer.

Col. Bill Mayville, the SETAF chief of staff, accepted the gifts. The base hasn't determined where the art will be displayed, Shaccanti said.



PHOTOS BY RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Above: Members of Tops in Blue perform in the final segment of the troupe's performance Monday night at Rhein-Main Air Base. The group traditionally closes with a selection of patriotic songs, including "God Bless the U.S.A." and "The Air Force Song." Left: Staff Sgt. Kristina Robinson performs a country song. Below: Tops in Blue performers sing and dance through a set of 1970s and '80s music.

## A 'Top' performance

Stars and Stripes

Tops in Blue, the Air Force's active-duty musical troupe, put on its high-energy, nonstop show at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, on Monday night. The theme of this year's traveling show was "Musicalology," and it demonstrated how bits of different types of music combined to form blues, country, gospel, jazz, swing, rhythm and blues and rock 'n' roll. The group, just back from several shows in the Middle East, performs next in the Balkans before returning Saturday for a series of shows in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, the United Kingdom and Iceland.



## Myers encourages voting

The U.S. military's top man in uniform wants you to exercise your right and privilege by voting in this year's elections.

U.S. Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is telling fellow servicemembers that "[a]s members of the armed forces, we each have a responsibility to take part in determining our nation's leadership."

"In this election year, you — our men and women in uniform — are stationed around the globe serving our Nation and defending democracy. We have both the responsibility and the privilege to participate in our democracy by exercising our fundamental right to vote," Myers said in his 2004 voting message.

The 2004 elections will determine our choice for president and vice president, 34 senators, the entire House of Representatives, and 13 governors, as well as thousands of local officials," Myers wrote. "I urge each of you to participate, starting with the primaries already under way and continuing through the general election on Nov. 2. Recent elections have demonstrated the importance of every absentee ballot. Your vote does count!"

## Ramstein exercise set

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The 435th Air Base Wing will conduct a daytime exercise Wednesday in the central part of Ramstein Air Base, using ground burst simulators and smoke grenades.

Petra Day, a base spokeswoman, said there should be no traffic delays because of the exercise.

The purpose of the exercise is to provide realistic training for emergency and security forces members who would respond to terrorist incidents.

From staff reports



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## Commissaries assist in efforts to raise voting awareness among military

by Bonnie Powell,  
bonnie.powell@deca.mil

FORT LEE, Va. — It's your future, vote for it! Commissaries worldwide are participating in a unique partnership with the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the Department of Defense to encourage all members of the uniformed services, retirees and their families to register and vote.

"Since commissaries are among the busiest locations on any installation, we can make a significant contribution toward increasing awareness among military families of the importance of registering to vote," said Patrick B. Nixon, chief executive officer for the Defense Commissary Agency.

All over the world, commissary employees are working directly with installation voting assistance officers, making space available for voter information and registration tables. "Our store directors are reporting that as many 40-60 people register to vote during

commissary events," said Nixon. "When you have commissaries hosting multiple registration events, there is a great potential to net very impressive results!" DeCA operates 273 commissaries worldwide.

The DeCA effort intensified during Armed Forces Voters week Sept. 3-11, and throughout the month of September, when all citizens under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) are specifically encouraged to register to vote, or request an absentee ballot.

DeCA also has a link to the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site on the front page of [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com). The FVAP site is packed with helpful information on topics such as absentee voting, individual state registration requirements and how to apply for an absentee ballot. The Web site also contains links to all state election sites, providing information about upcoming elections, and links to official Web sites of U.S. senators and representatives.



Defense Commissary Agency Chief Executive Officer Patrick B. Nixon takes a hands-on approach to a unique partnership with the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the Department of Defense by delivering voter information to Maj. Terrell Bauer during Armed Forces Voters Week. Commissaries worldwide are participating in FVAP efforts to encourage all members of the uniformed services, retirees and their families to register and vote. "Since they are the focal point of activity on installations, commissaries can make a significant contribution toward increasing awareness among military families of the importance of registering to vote," said Nixon. "Store personnel worldwide are working with their local voting assistance officers and making space available in commissaries for registration and information tables." (DeCA photo: Adam Austin)

# U.S. bombs suspected al-Zarqawi hide-out

## Two Italian aid workers, two Iraqi hostages freed

BY KIM HOUSEGO  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — American forces struck a suspected hide-out used by the militant group of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Fallujah on Tuesday, and the military said its frequent strikes have taken a toll on the leadership of the Jordanian-born terror leader's network.

But in a sign of strength, dozens of militants — some waving banners of al-Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad group — drove freely through the streets of another central Iraqi city, Samarra, where U.S. and Iraqi commanders had claimed success weeks ago in suppressing the insurgency. The gunmen waved automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers, stopping cars and taking music tapes from passengers — giving them tapes with recitations from the Muslim holy book, the Quran, in exchange.

Jordan's King Abdullah II warned in an interview published on Tuesday that extremists — “the best organized faction” in Iraq — would emerge the victors if elections are held on schedule in January amid the current chaos.

Meanwhile, two Italian aid workers and two Iraqi hostages held hostage for the past three weeks were freed, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi announced Tuesday.

“Finally a moment of joy,” Berlusconi told Parliament in Rome.

The Italians, Simona Pari and Simona Torretta, were kidnapped on Sept. 7 along with their Iraqi colleagues from the Baghdad office of their aid agency “Un Ponte Per...” (“A Bridge To...”). Two different groups claimed responsibility for the abductions, demanding the withdrawal of Italian troops from the country or the release of Iraqi female prisoners. The same two groups later put out Web statements saying the two Italians had been killed, but the Italian government cast doubt on the claims' authenticity.

News of the release came after a Muslim leader from Italy met with a local Muslim association in Baghdad on Tuesday to press for



U.S. troops inspect the site of a roadside bomb Tuesday in Baghdad. The blast on Karrada Street damaged several vehicles and wounded three civilians, government officials said.

their freedom, though it was not immediately known if there was a connection. The two women, both 29, had been working on school and water projects in Iraq.

In a separate kidnap crisis, four of six Egyptian telecommunications workers also kidnapped in Baghdad have been freed, their parent company said Tuesday.

Three of the kidnapped techni-

cians were freed Tuesday afternoon, Orascom said in a statement. Hours earlier, the company had confirmed another of the six Egyptians abducted last week had been freed.

“Orascom is continuing its intensive efforts to free the two remaining [Egyptian] hostages,” the company statement said.

Asked if Orascom had paid a

ransom for their freedom, said he could not comment on any details of the negotiations. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, described them only as “hectic.”

The hostages are among more than 140 foreigners who have been kidnapped in Iraq — some by anti-U.S. insurgents and others by criminals seeking ransom. At least 26 have been killed.

In the southern city of Basra, insurgents attacked a British military convoy, killing two British troops, the Ministry of Defense in London said.

U.S. warplanes struck in Fallujah at 4 a.m., and there was no immediate word on casualties. Early reports showed that no civilians were in the area when the blast went off, the military said.

Intelligence reports indicated that the militants targeted in the strike were “rising” associates of al-Zarqawi and “planning attacks using foreign suicide bombers in vehicles rigged with explosives,” the military said.

The military said weeks of airstrikes in rebel-held Fallujah have exacted a heavy toll on al-Zarqawi's network and intelligence, it indicates. The al-Qaida-linked group has been forced to reorganize its leadership.

Al-Zarqawi's group has claimed responsibility for scores of suicide attacks and kidnappings across the country, as well as the recent beheading of two Americans. Last week, the death of a top deputy to al-Zarqawi, Abu al-Anas al-Shami, was reported slain in a U.S. strike just outside Baghdad, and his father confirmed the death.

In Baghdad, American troops and insurgents clashed Tuesday along central Baghdad's Haifa Street, an Iraqi Interior Ministry spokesman said, and half a dozen explosions rocked the city. There was no immediate word on casualties.

U.S. aircraft also struck in Baghdad's Sadr City, the scene of continuing battles with Shiite militiamen. One Iraqi was killed and three injured, said Qassem Saddat, spokesman for Al-Amman al-Islami in the district. There was no immediate U.S. military comment.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Monday, 1,049 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 799 died as a result of hostile action and 250 died of nonhostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 65 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 911 U.S. military members have died — 690 as a result of hostile action and 221 of nonhostile causes, according to the military's numbers as of Monday.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command:

■ Two U.S. servicemen were killed Monday near Balad, north of the capital. The first died in a car crash and the second was killed when a patrol came under fire as it returned from the crash, the military said.

The latest identifications reported by the Department of Defense:

■ Army Spc. Robert Oliver, 26, Tucson, Ariz.; died Saturday when his unit came under attack in Anbar province, Iraq; assigned to the 4th Engineer Battalion, Camp Howze, Korea.

■ Army Spc. Clifford L. Moxley, Jr., 51, New Castle, Pa.; died Saturday of non-combat related injuries in Baghdad, Iraq; assigned to the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 103rd Armored Regiment, Berwick, Pa.

■ Army Spc. David W. Johnson, 37, Portland, Ore.; died Saturday when an explosive detonated near his vehicle in Baghdad, Iraq; assigned to the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, Cottage Grove, Ore.

# U.S. ambassador to Iraq says elections will stay on schedule

BY KIM GAMEL  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The top U.S. official in Baghdad said Monday that nationwide elections would be held in Iraq early next year as scheduled regardless of how large a U.N. presence the world body manages to send to oversee the vote.

John Negroponte, the American envoy to Iraq, predicted the vote would go ahead as scheduled in January and said the training of Iraqi security forces was on track despite concerns that an upsurge in violence would make voting in some regions of the country impossible.

“I'm hopeful that by the time the elec-

tions take place, the Iraqi government should have sufficient forces,” he said.

U.N. associate spokesman Stephane Dujarric, meanwhile, said the United Nations was in discussions with a number of countries about contributing troops to protect U.N. staffers but that no firm commitments had been made.

Negroponte welcomed the participation of the United Nations but said the number of workers it manages to send would not have an effect on the schedule for balloting.

The United Nations withdrew its foreign staff after deadly attacks on its offices in Baghdad last year and has been reluctant to commit more than the 35 election offi-

cials already authorized because of the danger of the “designer” forces,” he said.

“It's important that the U.N. send as many people as possible,” Negroponte said, but he stressed that an independent Electoral Commission of Iraq and nongovernmental organizations already were in place.

“The government is going to carry out the elections anyway,” he said.

Separately Monday, Negroponte briefed U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the situation in Iraq, including the prospects for elections and the security environment.

Annan mentioned concerns that had been raised about the elections and emphasized the importance of the process being

inclusive and representative, his spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

The ambassador said that it was essential that all Iraqis of voting age take part in the electoral process and reaffirmed that the United States would do everything possible to support that outcome, according to Eckhard.

Dujarric stressed that the world body already has electoral workers in Iraq and was helping with the training of almost 6,000 electoral workers.

“We're looking at the security situation on a daily basis,” Dujarric said. “We're committed and dedicated to helping the Iraqis hold fair and credible elections.”



# Army might punish IRR troops who skirt duty

Stars and Stripes

Fewer than two-thirds of Individual Ready Reserve soldiers are being recalled to duty in Iraq and elsewhere have reported on time, prompting the Army to threaten some with punishment for desertion, USA Today reported in its Tuesday editions.

The former soldiers are being recalled to fill shortages in skills needed for the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Of the 1,662 ready reservists ordered to report to Fort Jackson, S.C., by Sept. 22, only 1,038 had done so, the Army told USA Today on Monday. About 500 of those who failed to report have requested exemptions on health or personal grounds.

"The numbers did not look good," Lt. Col. Burton Masters, a spokesman for the Army's Human Resources Command told the paper. "We are tightening the system, reaching the people and bringing them in."

Masters said most of the requests for exemptions are likely to be denied. "To get an exemption, it has to be a very compelling case, such as a severe medical condition."

The figures are the first on the IRR call-up. They reflect the challenges the Pentagon faces in trying to find enough troops for ongoing operations and show resistance among some servicemembers who returned to civilian life.

The Ready Reserve is an infrequently used pool of former soldiers who can be called to duty in a national emergency or war. On June 29, the Army announced it would call 5,674 members of its IRR back to active duty this year and next.



Colorado Rep. Diana DeGette, flanked by Vietnam veterans Ron Cole and Marty Coleman, speaks out Monday in Denver about recent allegations that Fort Carson soldiers were coerced with Iraq deployments if they did not re-enlist for three years.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS/AP

## Probe sought on re-enlistment tactics

BY JON SARCHIE

The Associated Press

DENVER — A Colorado congresswoman called Monday for an investigation into allegations that Iraqi war veterans near the end of their duty were given a choice between re-enlisting or being sent back to Iraq.

Democratic Rep. Diana DeGette, in a letter to House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter, a Republican, asked him to look into whether the "White House or civilian Pentagon officials are pressuring the military to use coercive tactics to get soldiers to re-enlist in order to maintain the force levels necessary to fight the war in Iraq and war on terror."

DeGette, at a news conference in Denver, cited reports in two Denver newspapers and calls she received from several soldiers at Fort Carson, near Colorado Springs.

"They can't meet re-enlistment goals, so they're putting this hammer over their head, which is just wrong,"

DeGette said. "In the long term, the integrity of our military is going to suffer."

According to reports in the Rocky Mountain News and The Denver Post, soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team were told they faced reassignment to units expected to be deployed to Iraq or Korea if they did not either re-enlist by the end of the month or extend their duty until the end of 2007. Those who re-enlisted or extended would stay with the 3rd Brigade, which already was deployed for a year in Iraq.

Pentagon officials deferred comment to Fort Carson, which denied any effort to coerce soldiers into re-enlisting.

Fort Carson spokesman Lt. Justin Journey said soldiers recently were given a form with three options; the third — neither extending nor re-enlisting — came with the understanding

they could be reassigned. Fort Carson officials said soldiers are being asked to record their choices so the Army can determine the strength of the force. The Army's goal is to have units that stick together for several years with little turnover, Journey said. He said Fort Carson was exceeding re-enlistment goals.

The adequacy of military manpower has become a volatile political issue. Democrats say the Bush administration, to satisfy personnel needs in Iraq and Afghanistan, is delaying troop rotations and making extensive use of Reserve and National Guard troops.

Democratic presidential challenger John Kerry recently said President George W. Bush has a secret plan to call up more National Guard and Reserve troops immediately after the election. The president's campaign called that allegation "false and ridiculous."

## Army expects to meet recruiting goals for active, Reserve forces

BY KIMBERLY HEFLING

The Associated Press

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The Army and Army Reserve expect to meet their recruiting goals this year, largely because nearly half the recruits who signed up last year were not counted until they reported for duty, officials said Monday.

But military observers say the picture could be bleaker next year, when that delayed entry pool is depleted.

"The next fiscal year is going to be a very trying time," said Charles Moskos, military sociologist at Northwestern University.

The Army's goal was to recruit 77,000 new active Army troops

and 21,200 reservists troops. As of Aug. 31, the Army had 70,479 new recruits and the Army Reserve had 19,642.

The recruiting year ended Monday.

"We'll be slightly above each goal," said Douglas Smith, spokesman for the Army Recruiting Command, based at Fort Knox, 40 miles south of Louisville.

This is the fifth straight year the Army has met its recruiting goal, which is set by Congress and fluctuates each year based on the need for troops.

Nearly 46 percent of this year's recruits enlisted the year before, but did not begin serving until after the fiscal year started Oct. 1.

Recruits have a year to report for duty and are counted only when they report for service.

That delayed entry pool will drop to about 18 percent of the total for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, Smith said.

Ideally, the Army likes to have 35 percent of its recruits in the pool to carry forward, Smith said. However, he said it's possible to reach the recruiting goal with only 18 percent in the pool, as the Army did in 2001.

"We've stayed successful after Sept. 11. We stayed successful leading into the buildup into the war in Iraq and through the war in Iraq," Smith said. "We're not overly concerned."

Next year's goal rises to 80,000

new active Army soldiers and 22,175 Army reservists.

The increase is part of a four-year plan to boost troop strength by 30,000. Of those, 20,000 are expected to be recruits, Smith said. The rest will come from re-enlistments.

David R. Segal, director of the Center for Research on Military Organization at the University of Maryland, said meeting that goal could be more difficult as the economy improves and the war in Iraq continues.

"I think the war is certainly going to affect recruitment in the long run," he said.

The Army National Guard already is feeling the impact.

Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum,

chief of the National Guard Bureau, told The Associated Press last week he expects the Guard will fall short of its recruitment goal by 5,000 soldiers this year.

Blum expects the Guard to attract 51,000 recruits, down from the 56,000 it wanted.

The shortage is due in part to an awareness that a Guard assignment will not reduce the likelihood of going to Iraq or Afghanistan, Blum said.

Matthew Joest, 18, of Evansville, Ind., knows such assignments are a possibility.

He recently joined the Army Reserve, but said his mother and grandparents were worried he would go to Iraq.

"I told them it was a risk I was willing to take," Joest said.

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## IN THE STATES

## Floridians begin another massive cleanup

BY DEBORAH HASTINGS  
The Associated Press

FORT PIERCE, Fla. — Floridians were again settling into the discomforts of a post-hurricane reality: lines for bags of ice or a hot meal, damaged homes that will take months to repair, and stifling heat and darkness amid widespread power outages.

Hurricane Jeanne, the fourth storm to hammer the state in six weeks, has left behind a trail of death, destruction and frustration.

"We're weary. We're tired. We have been doing this for more than 30 days," said Jay Clark, the owner of CYS Yacht Management and Sales in Fort Pierce, on Monday. "Preparation, then cleanup."

Preparation, then cleanup." Tom Gallagher, Florida's top insurance regulator, believes Jeanne added \$6 billion in insured losses to nearly \$12 billion estimated from Charley, Frances and Ivan, for a total that beats the \$15 billion tally from Hurricane Andrew in 1992, the world's costliest natural disaster at the time. At least 79 people have been killed by the four storms in Florida.

He noted his estimate of private insurance claims for Jeanne does not include a high rate of flood damage, which is covered by a federal program.

Remnants of Hurricane Jeanne blew through southwest Virginia early Tuesday bringing storms that dumped 12 inches of rain in Patrick County, washing a woman from her mobile home, and turning roads into rivers throughout the region.

The victim's body was recovered downstream from her home, which had been washed off its foundation by flood waters, Patrick County Sheriff David Hubbard said.

Jeanne killed at least six people in Florida during the weekend, bearing down upon the state with winds of 120 mph. Two others died in South Carolina as the remnants moved through late Monday. The havoc caused by the four hurricanes have prompted the largest relief effort ever undertaken by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

President Bush asked Congress late Monday for more than \$7.1 billion to help Florida and other Southeastern states recover. His third request for additional storm



Postal carrier Terry Handy retrieves mail Monday at a box along a flooded sidewalk in the San Marco section of Jacksonville, Fla., in the aftermath of Hurricane Jeanne.

aid brings total possible funds to at least \$12.2 billion.

Patience was in demand at staging areas along the state's central Atlantic coast, where volunteers from the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross passed out bags of ice and containers of water to help residents keep cool

under temperatures in the high 80s and massive power outages.

In Indianola, a line of 40 cars waited in the parking lot of a strip mall where volunteers loaded bags of ice from a semitrailer that arrived from St. Louis. Residents left homes without electricity to dine on hot plates of ravioli and

## Ivan disrupts PCS

Damage caused by Hurricane Ivan three weeks ago prompted Navy officials to temporarily halt all sailors' PCS transfers to Pensacola, Fla. region. Sailors with orders to NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, Corry Station or Sauley Field won't be able to move to the region until after Oct. 31, according to a news release.

Transfers were suspended as of Sept. 14.

Transferring sailors must remain in contact with detailers for updates. Detailers' phone numbers can be found at [www.persnet.navy.mil/phonebook/pers4.pdf](http://www.persnet.navy.mil/phonebook/pers4.pdf). Sailors also can receive updates by calling (866) U-ASK-APC, or (866) 827-5672. More information is listed in NAVADMIN 215-04, which soon will be available at [www.bupers.navy.mil/navadmin](http://www.bupers.navy.mil/navadmin).

From staff reports

corn and bottles of Snapple.

"It hasn't been a fun month," said Louane Dowling, 40, of Satellite Beach, who picked up food and ice for her four children.

## New, colorful \$50 bills hit the street

BY JEANNINE AVERSA  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Coming to cash registers near you: Colorful new \$50 bills sporting splashes of red, blue and yellow. Next up for a makeover, the government said Tuesday: \$10 bills.

That would bring to three the number of greenbacks to undergo the color treatment in an effort to thwart counterfeiters.

The new \$10 will go into circulation in fall 2005, said Thomas Ferguson, director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Alexander Hamilton, the nation's first treasury secretary, is expected to stay on the front of the new \$10 with the Treasury Department on the back, officials said. Various efforts have emerged to put former President Ronald Reagan on the nation's currency, either on the \$10 or the \$20 bill, or possibly the dime.

The new \$50s — worth about Tuesday and soon will be showing up at banks, cash registers and wallets. Ferguson said that 140 million of the new \$50s have been printed.

Ulysses S. Grant, the Civil War general and 18th president, remains on the front and the U.S. Capitol remains on the back of the new bills. But subtle colors have been added — joining the traditional black ink on the fronts and green ink on the backs. The redesign for the new \$50s was unveiled in April.

Old \$50 bills will continue to be accepted and recirculated until they wear out.

## Grant gets a makeover

The U.S. government continues its changes to U.S. currency — intended to thwart counterfeiting — with a new look for the \$50 bill. The new bills went into circulation Tuesday.

**Security thread:** A plastic strip embedded in the paper with "USA \$50" written on it; glows yellow under ultraviolet light

**Watermark:** A faint second image of Ulysses S. Grant is seen when the bill is held up to light



**Color:** Subtle background colors, reds and blues, added

**Color-shifting ink:** The "50" changes from green to copper when the note is tilted

**Micropointing:** Yellow "50s" scattered around the back of the note

SOURCE: Bureau of Engraving and Printing

After the \$10 makeover comes the \$100 bill, the most counterfeited note outside the United States, Ferguson said. The \$5 bill won't get a new look, neither will the \$1 and \$2 notes, he said.

Colors for the redesigned notes vary by denomination. Ferguson didn't say what the colors would be for a new \$10 and a new \$100.

A new \$100 bill was supposed to follow the new \$50 but that changed because the bureau is considering additional security features for the \$100 bill. A timetable for a new \$100 bill introduction hasn't been set.

## Earthquake hits central Calif.

The Associated Press

PARKFIELD, Calif. — A moderate earthquake struck Central California on Tuesday that was felt from San Francisco to the Los Angeles area. There was no immediate report of injuries.

The quake, which struck at 10:15 a.m. PDT, had a preliminary magnitude of 5.9 and was centered 9 miles south of Parkfield, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The area is 17 miles northeast of Paso Robles, scene of an earthquake that killed two people in December.

A series of aftershocks quickly

rattled the area, one with a preliminary 5.0 magnitude four minutes after the main earthquake and three others 4.1 or above.

Paso Robles police said there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

"It rattled everything hanging on the walls and the chandelier was swinging. It didn't do any damage to our house. There were two shakers, one right after the other," said Ben Brown, who lives in Paso Robles.

The quake was felt along a 350-mile stretch, as far north as San Francisco and as far south as Santa Ana, southeast of Los Angeles, the geological survey said.

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# Poll shows Bush has solid lead over Kerry

BY DAN BALZ AND  
VANESSA WILLIAMS

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Bush heads into the first presidential debate with a solid lead over John Kerry, boosted by the perception that he is a stronger leader with a clearer vision, despite deep concerns about Iraq and the pace of the economic recovery, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News Poll and interviews with voters in battleground states.

Bush's relentless attacks on

Kerry have badly damaged the Democratic nominee, the survey and interviews showed. Voters routinely describe Kerry as wishy-washy, as a flip-flopper and as a candidate they are not sure they can trust, almost as if they are reading from Bush campaign ads. But Kerry's problems are also partly of his own making. Despite repeated efforts to flesh out his proposals on Iraq, terrorism and other issues, he has yet to break through to undecided voters as someone who has clear plans

for fixing the country's biggest problems.

Bush remains a polarizing figure, strongly admired by his supporters and despised by partisans on the left. Some swing voters who disagree with his policies nonetheless see him as a confident leader and express reluctance to vote him out of office in the middle of the struggle against terrorism, unless Kerry convinces them that he can do a better job.

Among those voters who dislike Bush's policies and are still mak-

ing up their minds, the three presidential debates may offer Kerry his last opportunity to show them that he has what they are looking for in a president.

Americans remain deeply divided over Bush's presidency. As many are dissatisfied with the direction of the country as are satisfied (49 percent each), according to the Post-ABC poll, and overall those surveyed give the president identical negative marks on his handling of Iraq and the economy.

Forty-seven percent approve of

the job Bush is doing on the economy and on Iraq, with 50 percent saying they disapprove. Only on his handling of terrorism does Bush receive strongly positive marks, with 59 percent approving and 38 percent disapproving.

Bush's overall approval rating stands at 50 percent in the poll. The poll was conducted by telephone Sept. 23 to 26 among 1,204 randomly selected adults nationwide, including 969 self-identified registered voters. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus three percentage points.

## In new ads for Bush and Kerry, personal attacks on war views

BY HOWARD KURTZ

The Washington Post

President Bush accused John F. Kerry on Monday of not knowing "where he stands" on Iraq in a new television ad that splices together footage of seemingly contradictory Kerry comments on the war.

Some of the statements are taken out of context, however, discrediting Kerry's criticism of the war and using only phrases in which he was supportive of the administration.

Six hours later, the Democratic presidential nominee released a counterattack spot, charging that the president "still doesn't get it" on Iraq and "has no plan" for quelling the violence there. And in a ratcheting up of the rhetoric, ads of both candidates are running attack ads featuring Osama bin Laden.

And Tuesday, Bush released a second ad accusing "John Kerry and Congressional liberals" of "putting our protection at risk."

"Strength builds peace. Weakness invites those who do us

harm," the ads say, a suggestion that Kerry would be a weak leader in wartime and a country headed by him would be vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

The ad accuses Kerry of "refusing to support our troops in combat" and trying to severely slash intelligence budgets and eliminate military weapons after the first attack on the World Trade Center.

Responding to the new ad, Kerry's campaign accused the Bush campaign of "using the politics of fear" to mask the president's "mistakes in Iraq."

The escalating exchanges mark an increasingly personal debate before Thursday's first presidential debate, which will be devoted to foreign policy. In an airwaves battle that erupted over the weekend, an independent conservative group stamped Kerry as weak on terrorists such as bin Laden while the senator accused the Bush campaign of "un-American" tactics.


"The Bush ad shows Kerry making various televised comments. 'It was the right decision to disarm Saddam Hussein, and when the president made the decision, I supported him.'"

"It's the wrong war, in the wrong place, at the wrong time."

"I have always said we may yet even find weapons of mass destruction." A graphic asks: "How can John Kerry protect us when he doesn't even know where he stands?"

In its response ad late Monday, the Bush camp recycled a famous line from Ronald Reagan in 1980: "There he goes again. George Bush said Iraq was 'mission accomplished' just seven months later, he still doesn't get it today. Over 1,000 U.S. soldiers dead, kidnappings, even beheadings of Americans. Still Bush has no plan what to do in Iraq. How can you solve a problem when you can't see it?"


The Associated Press contributed to this report.



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## Bush hopes to solve Iran nuke crisis with diplomacy

BY SCOTT LINDLAW  
The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — President Bush, preparing for this week's much-anticipated campaign debate on foreign policy, is insisting Iran will not develop a nuclear weapon on his watch.

"My hope is that we can solve this diplomatically," Bush said in a TV interview broadcast Monday. "We are working our hearts out so that they don't develop a nuclear weapon, and the best way to do so is to continue to keep international pressure on them."

Pressed on whether he would allow Iran to build a bomb, Bush said: "No, we've made it clear, our position is that they won't have a nuclear weapon."

Bush's comments on Fox News Channel's "The O'Reilly Factor" did not mark new policy. In June 2003, Bush said that "the international community must come together to make it very clear to Iran that we will not tolerate the construction of a nuclear weapon."

But Bush has not spoken out so forcefully on the matter since signs emerged recently that Iran could be on the path toward developing a bomb.

Iran defied rules set by 35 nations and announced it had start-

ed converting raw uranium into the gas needed for enrichment, a process that can be used to make nuclear weapons. While insisting its intentions are peaceful, Iran pledged to continue even if it means a rupture with U.N. monitors and an end to inspections of its nuclear facilities.

Thursday's presidential debate centers on foreign policy, and Iran is likely to come up. Bush and his Democratic challenger, Sen.

John Kerry, have modest differences on how to confront the issue.

Kerry charges that Bush's Iraq policies "took our attention and our resources away" from dealing with Iran.

Kerry holds out some hope that a negotiated solution with Iran is possible. He said the United States and other nations should "call their bluff" by offering nuclear fuel for peaceful purposes, then taking back the spent fuel so it can't be used for weapons.

If that process fails, the United States could try to ensure that the International Atomic Energy Agency takes the issue to the U.N. Security Council, where Iran could face sanctions.

In 2001, Bush called Iran part of an "axis of evil," along with Iraq and North Korea.

# 'Stay tuned for Conan'

## O'Brien to take over for Leno in 5 years

BY DAVID BAUDER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jay Leno's take-over as host of NBC's "Tonight" show in 1992 was fraught with drama and bad feelings, but he's assured the next transition will be as smooth as his nightly sign-off: "Stay tuned for Conan."

The comedian and NBC on Monday chose the 50th anniversary of the first "Tonight" show to set a special date for the 55th — when Leno will step down and Conan O'Brien becomes the fifth host of the television institution.

Announcing a transition in five years is odd for any business, let alone one that frequently plans

from day-to-day, but NBC was anxious not to lose O'Brien. The 41-year-old "Late Night" host was considered likely to jump to another network without a promise of advancement.

Leno beat out David Letterman for the "Tonight" job, sparking a feud that lives on and was even the subject of a book and movie, "The Late Shift."

Leno recalled the animosity on his show Monday, saying "a lot of good friendships were permanently damaged."

"Quite frankly, I don't want to see anybody go through that again," he said.

On his show Monday, Letterman wished O'Brien "all the

best" and repeatedly mocked the idea of a 2009 changeover.

"I think he said he couldn't take it another minute so he's leaving in 2009," Letterman said.

Leno also offered a warm tribute Monday to his immediate predecessor, Johnny Carson, showing a lengthy clip package of Carson's funniest moments. Leno was criticized when he took over for overlooking Carson's 30-year legacy.

"Johnny set the standard for how this job should be done," Leno said. "Those of us who do this for a living, we all owe him a tremendous debt."

Oprah Winfrey visited Leno's Burbank set Monday to bring in a cake decorated with a Mount



Conan O'Brien



Leno

Rushmore picture of the four "Tonight" hosts: Steve Allen, Jack Paar, Carson and Leno.

O'Brien's show, which immediately follows Leno on NBC, was a rerun Monday.

Shortly after he signed his latest contract extension, Leno said NBC executives approached him, saying they didn't want to lose O'Brien. He endorsed the move and set his own 2009 exit date, when he'll be 59.

"You can do these things until they carry you out on a stretcher or you can get out while you're still doing good," he said. "I'm not quitting show business, but I realized I'm not spending enough time with my cars."

O'Brien's previous contract was expiring this year. The last time he was up for a renewal, Fox tried to lure him with an earlier show, but O'Brien turned it down at the last minute.



AP

Reginald Robinson, 31, a musician and composer of classical ragtime music, is one this year's recipients of a \$500,000 MacArthur Foundation "genius grant."

BY TARA BURGHART

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Reginald Robinson first heard ragtime during a school assembly when he was 13. He pestered his mother for a piano, and was soon trying to replicate the sound on a tiny Casio keyboard.

"A lot of people say, 'You should leave that ragtime alone — go and play some jazz,'" said Robinson, now a 31-year-old ragtime composer, researcher and performer. "My heart is in ragtime. I love this music. I think it's forgotten, and it's really a dying art."

The self-taught Chicago pianist's effort to keep the uniquely American music style alive

earned him one of this year's 23 MacArthur Foundation "genius grants," \$500,000 awards that the recipients can use however they wish.

Other grant recipients announced Tuesday by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation include a high school debate coach, and a glass expert involved in the rebuilding of a structure at the World Trade Center site, and a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist.

When Rueben Martinez was a child, he lived in a town without a public library and with parents who didn't read to him.

Still, Martinez's teachers inspired a love of literature, and when he became a barber in the Los Angeles area, he lent books to customers for reading.

Noticing the books he lent out were rarely returned to him, Martinez started selling books in his barber shop. Now, his Santa Ana, Calif., bookstore — called Libreria Martinez Books and Art Gallery — is among the largest commercial sellers of Spanish-language books in the country.

James Carpenter, 55, of New York, was recognized for his work expanding the artistic and technical potential of glass. He helped design a partially transparent exterior for the new Seven World Trade Center, a smaller building that collapsed following the twin towers after Sept. 11.

Dr. Gretchen Berland received a grant for her decision to combine her current career as a physician with her previous experience making documentaries. For a project called "Rolling," she provided cameras to several people who use wheelchairs.

"To receive a phone call like that saying we believe in you and we believe in your work — it doesn't happen very often," Berland said.

The self-taught Chicago pianist's effort to keep the uniquely American music style alive

## Swarms of small earthquakes recorded at Mount St. Helens

BY PEGGY ANDERSEN

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Seismic energy releases from Mount St. Helens have been increasing for days now, cranking up to a level not seen since 1986, when the volcano's last dome-building eruption occurred.

"Since this morning, the energy releases have been slowly but steadily ramping up," said Jeff Wynn, chief scientist at the Cascade Volcano Observatory operated by the U.S. Geological Survey in Vancouver, Wash. — about 50 miles south of the 8,364-foot peak and 140 miles south of Seattle.

"We're furiously setting up new GPS stations all around the place," Wynn said Monday, adding about six to the dozen or so already there. Using Global Positioning Satellite data, scientists can detect tiny movements by the earth.

Swarms of small earthquakes have been recorded at the mountain since Thursday. On Sunday, there were more than 10 larger events, with magnitudes ranging between 2 and 2.8.

By Monday, the quakes were moderating — with magnitudes ranging between 0.5 and 2-plus — and occurring at a rate of one or two per minute, Wynn said.

"Energy is just boiling out," he said. The quakes are occurring less than a mile below the 925-foot dome of hardened lava inside the volcano's gaping crater — created when Mount St. Helens erupted May 18, 1980, killing 57 people, leveling hundreds of square miles of forests, spewing mud and debris for miles and spreading volcanic ash across the region.

Early tests of gas samples collected above the volcano by helicopter Monday did not show unusually high levels of carbon dioxide or sulfur.

"This tells us that we are probably not yet seeing magma moving up in the system," said Wynn.

Observatory scientists are working 12-hour days, he said.

The USGS issued a notice of volcanic unrest on Sunday, citing "increased likelihood of a hazardous event." U.S. Forest Service officials closed hiking trails above the tree line at 4,800 feet.



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## IN THE WORLD

# N. Korea says its nuclear arsenal has been expanded

BY EDITH M. LEDERER  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — North Korea says it has turned the plutonium from 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods into nuclear weapons to serve as a deterrent against increasing U.S. nuclear threats and to prevent a nuclear war in northeast Asia.

Warning that the danger of war on the Korean Peninsula is "snowballing," Vice Foreign Minister Choe Su Hon provided details Monday of the nuclear deterrent that he said North Korea has developed for self-defense.

He told the U.N. General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting that Pyongyang had "no other option but to possess a nuclear deterrent" because of U.S. policies that he claimed were designed to "eliminate" North Korea and make it "a target of preemptive nuclear strikes."

"Our deterrent is, in all its intents and purposes, the self-defense means to cope with the ever increasing U.S. nuclear threats and further, prevent a nuclear war in northeast Asia," he told a news conference after his speech.

In Washington, a State Department official noted that Secretary of State Colin Powell has said repeatedly that the United States has no plans to attack the communist country.

But in his General Assembly speech and at the news conference with a small group of reporters, Choe blamed the United States for intensifying threats to attack the communist nation and destroying the basis for negotiations to resolve the dispute over Pyongyang's nuclear program.

Nonetheless, he said, North Korea still is ready to dismantle its nuclear program if Washington abandons its "hostile policy" and is prepared to coexist peacefully.

At the moment, however, he said the "ever intensifying U.S. hostile policy and the clandestine nuclear-related experiments recently revealed in South Korea are constituting big stumbling blocks" and make it impossible for North Korea to participate in the continuation of six-nation talks on its nuclear program.

North Korea said earlier this year that it had reprocessed the 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods and



Choe Su Hon, North Korea's vice foreign minister, speaks to reporters at the office of his U.N. mission in New York on Monday.

was increasing its "nuclear deterrent" but did not provide any details.

Choe was asked at the news conference what was included in the nuclear deterrent.

"We have already made clear that we have already reprocessed 8,000 wasted fuel rods and transformed them into arms," he said, without elaborating on the kinds or numbers.

When asked if the fuel had been turned into atomic weapons, not just weapons-grade material, Choe said, "We declared that we weaponized this."

South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Soo-hyuck said in late April that it was estimated that eight nuclear bombs could be made if all 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods were reprocessed.

## Saudis to boost oil production capacity

BY ABDULLAH AL-SHAIHI  
The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, will raise its production capacity by nearly 5 percent to 11 million barrels a day attempt to rein in prices that topped \$50 a barrel for the first time, the oil ministry said Tuesday.

By increasing capacity, Saudi Arabia will be able to raise production when it wants. A Saudi oil ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the kingdom would increase production, "depending on demand."

Oil Minister Ali Naimi announced that the capacity increase would come into effect in the next few weeks, using fields where production has just begun.

"The fields of Abu Safa and al-Qatif, which have just started production, will be used to increase the kingdom's production capacity in the coming few weeks to 11 million barrels per day," Naimi said in a statement. Its current production capacity is 10.5 million barrels a day and it has been producing about 9.5 million barrels a day.

Producers have been seeking ways to calm markets after an announcement two weeks ago that the OPEC cartel would boost its production target by 1

million barrels a day beginning in November failed to bring down prices.

Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi said last month that his country was willing to provide an extra 1.3 million barrels of oil a day to the world market if required to do so. There has, however, been some concern about whether Saudi Arabia has the excess capacity to significantly boost production.

Word of the decision came as crude oil topped \$50 per barrel on Tuesday, pushing past the psychological milestone for the first time.

Traders bid oil over \$50 a barrel in Asian trading after the November crude contract settled at a 21-year high of \$49.64 on Monday on the New York Mercantile Exchange in a reaction to the slow recovery of U.S. oil production that was damaged by Hurricane Ivan and unrest and terrorism fears in key producers Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Nigeria.

By mid-afternoon in Asia, November crude contracts traded as high as \$50.47 per barrel, up 83 cents from Monday's settlement price in New York. Later, crude was trading at \$50.02, up 38 cents, in electronic trading in advance of the Nymex opening on Tuesday.

The price of oil is up about 75 percent from a year ago and is already hurting airlines and other big oil consumers.

## Rights group: Warlords to influence Afghan vote

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM  
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Elections heralded as the dawn of democracy in war-ravaged Afghanistan will be hijacked by warlords who are able to intimidate voters and candidates to entrench their own power, a leading rights group warned Tuesday.

The U.S. ambassador acknowledged problems ahead of the country's first-ever direct presidential vote on Oct. 9, but insisted recent denunciations for faction leaders and a belated disarmament drive are "breaking the back of warlordism."

In a report titled "Rule of the Gun," Human Rights Watch said armed factions — some allied with the United States — were using force, threats and corruption to dominate the election process.

Independent political organizers were receiving death threats, while others were too scared even to get involved, it said.

"Political repression by local strongmen is the principal problem," the New York-based rights group said. "Most signs suggest

that warlordism and factional dominance will only increase."

Millions of Afghans have registered for the Oct. 9 vote, despite threats and attacks by followers of the Taliban regime ousted by a U.S. bombing campaign in late 2001.

American-backed interim President Hamid Karzai is widely expected to defeat 17 challengers for a five-year term as the country's first popularly elected leader.

But the campaign has been low-key, with some candidates saying they are too scared to venture into some parts of the country plagued by militants and unruly factions.

In its 50-page report, Human Rights Watch cited dozens of political organizers, journalists and rights activists describing the dangers of campaigning openly against local power-brokers. Few were prepared to be identified.

Independent party activists in Mazar-e-Sharif and Kabul allowed themselves to be announced

themselves as "the call of death" and warned: "You should get out of Kabul in 24 hours."

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A man puts his left index finger on a scanner Monday at the U.S. Embassy in Brussels. Europeans traveling to the United States will have to submit to fingerprinting and having their photo taken upon arrival as part of upgraded anti-terror border controls, U.S. officials said.



## U.S. tells Europeans new travel rules easy

By CONSTANT BRAND  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — U.S. officials sought to reassure European travelers Monday that electronic fingerprint scans and other tighter border controls — meant in part to catch terrorists — will be painless and quick.

Starting Friday, citizens from the European Union, who have enjoyed visa-free travel to the United States, will have to undergo new electronic procedures, including having their fingerprints scanned and photos taken, as part of the new "U.S.-Visit" program.

The "biometric checks" will be used on travelers from 15 EU nations, said Hilda VanKoughnet, head of the consular section at the U.S. Embassy in Belgium.

The beefed-up security is part of new anti-terrorist legislation passed in the United States after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

VanKoughnet said the new measures would phase out the old

paper visa waiver form that each traveler from the European Union has to fill out when entering the United States.

VanKoughnet said the new measures are simple and fast, adding that pilot projects over the last year drew few complaints from travelers.

"People have been very understanding. It's not intrusive, it's very fast," VanKoughnet told reporters. "It's not like fingerprinting — we used to know it with ink and 10 fingers, so most people are very happy to do it because it only takes a few seconds."

The program involves scanning a traveler's two index fingers electronically and taking a digital photo of them. It has already been in use for a year for those needing a visa to travel to the United States, said Marc Mezner, migration affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy.

Children under 14 and people older than 79 will be exempt from the new security measures, officials said.

# Philippines target terrorists in U.S.-aided assault mission

By JIM GOMEZ  
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — U.S.-backed forces have launched a major assault to capture or kill at least two Abu Sayyaf leaders wrenched Wednesday, sparking clashes that killed a Philippine marine and left an undetermined number of rebels dead, officials said Tuesday.

The assaults, which began Friday in the mountain jungles of Patikul on southern Jolo island, were aimed at Radulan Sahiron, his son Ismin and other Abu Sayyaf commanders who reportedly had planned to meet there last week, apparently to plot another terror strike, military sources said.

Army Brig. Gen. Agustín Dimalla, who was helping oversee the operations, confirmed that assaults were under way against Sahiron's group, about 580 miles south of Manila.

One marine was killed, two others were injured, two while de-

fusing a homemade bomb, officials said.

There was no indication if Sahiron or his son, who are believed to have about 40 armed followers, had been killed in running gunbattles, officials said.

"We're optimistic," Dimalla said. "The operations are continuing and the troops are still in the mountain."

U.S. forces provided training and equipment to Filipino troops involved in the assaults, but were not involved in actual combat, Dimalla said, refusing to give further details.

Night-vision goggles provided by the Americans allowed Filipino troops to locate and engage the rebels late Monday, another official said.

American help in the assaults indicates Washington's continuing desire to help the Philippines crush remnants of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf in the southern Mindanao region despite a high-profile spat in July over President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's decision to withdraw

peacekeepers from Iraq to save a kidnapped Filipino.

U.S. officials are also concerned over the reported presence of secret terror training camps in Mindanao maintained by Jemaah Islamiyah, al-Qaida's Southeast Asian ally that has been blamed for deadly bombings and plots in the region.

Sahiron, a one-armed, horse-riding Abu Sayyaf commander based in Patikul, and his son, who also has lost an arm, are on a U.S. Defense Department list of wanted terrorists. Philippine authorities have linked them to a number of kidnappings, including the April 2000 abduction of 21 Western tourists and Asian workers from neighboring Malaysia.

The hostages were freed after the payment of a ransom.

Sahiron allegedly planned to meet one or more Abu Sayyaf commanders last week in Patikul, apparently to plan another terror strike, prompting the marines and army to undertake surveillance and assaults, one military official said.

## Sexual assault trials set to begin for half the men on Pitcairn Island

By SUE INGRAM  
Special to The Associated Press

PITCAIRN ISLAND — Half the men on remote Pitcairn Island, which is populated by descendants of the Bounty mutineers, go on trial Wednesday for a string of alleged sexual attacks dating back up to 40 years.

But a group of women residents on the Pacific island came to the defense of the seven charged men at a meeting Tuesday, claiming the cases have been blown out of proportion and that the victims may have been coerced into testifying.

The defendants, who face a total of 55 sex charges, could be sentenced to lengthy prison terms if convicted in trials expected to last up to six weeks.

Though women residents on the island, which has a population of just 47, rallied around the men, prosecution witnesses are expected to testify via video links from New Zealand, home to many people who have fled the isolated community.

The seven separate trials on the island — a speck of volcanic rock, midway between New Zealand and Peru — had been

due to get under way Monday, but was delayed until Wednesday.

The size and complexity of the cases have overwhelmed the court on Pitcairn Island. The arrival of three judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and media has almost doubled the island's population.

The tiny population, descendants of the mutineers on the British navy ship H.M.S. Bounty who arrived there in 1790, ekes out a living by selling postage stamps to collectors and handing out information on passing cruise liners.

## Bus bombing conviction

STUTTGART, Germany — A German court on Tuesday convicted a suspected former Red Army Faction terrorist of helping his husband of Soviet Jews in Hungary in 1991, adding to a prison term already is serving for another attack.

Andrea Klump, 47, was convicted on 32 counts of being an accessory to attempted murder. No one died in the bus attack.

Klump has been serving a nine-year sentence for helping plan the failed 1988 bombing of a Spanish disco frequented by U.S. sailors.

The Dec. 23, 1991 blast in Budapest seriously injured two Hungarian police officers and slightly injured four passengers who had been headed for a flight to Israel.

The court ruled that Klump helped her boyfriend, Horst Ludwig Meyer, and at least one other accomplice carry out the bombing for a Palestinian group.

## Kidnapped and released

JERUSALEM — A producer for CNN who was abducted in Gaza City was released on Tuesday, his father said.

The father of Riad Ali told a group of reporters outside his home that his son had been released.

CNN confirmed the release, saying Ali had been turned over to Palestinian police. It was not clear whether the kidnapping signaled a new practice by Palestinian militants — perhaps an attempt to copy Iraqis

— who have surgically removed dozens of foreigners — or whether Ali was taken for personal reasons.

Witnesses said an old-model Peugeot 504 carrying gunmen stopped a CNN van outside a supermarket late ghorhood, close

Ramattan Studios that provide services to foreign TV companies.

CNN correspondent Ben Wiedeman said three armed men walked up to the van, asked for Ali and took him away. Wiedeman, a second American and their Palestinian driver were left alone, he said.

## Greek crash sparks protest

ATHENS, Greece — Hundreds of people blocked Greece's main national highway Tuesday to protest the lack of safety dividers along a stretch of road where the bus crash students were killed in a bus crash.

Chanting "No more blood," residents of the central city of Lamia blocked the main highway connecting southern and northern Greece near the spot where the bus packed with teenagers crashed into a truck hauling glass.

The bus was carrying 37 high school students and four teachers who were headed to Athens from northern Greece to Athens to watch the Paralympic Games.

Demonstrators were protesting the lack of safety dividers along the stretch where the accident occurred. The 48.47-mile stretch near Lamia narrows from four lanes to two and is considered one of the most dangerous on the Greek highway network.

## Poll: Many oppose Turkey in EU

PARIS — A majority of French adults op-

pose Turkey's immediate entry into the European Union, fearing it would prompt a mass wave of immigration westward, according to the results of a poll published Tuesday.

Some 56 percent of those questioned in a poll published in the *Figaro* newspaper said they opposed the 25-member EU taking in the Muslim nation.

A principal reason given for the opposition was immigration.

Respondents also said they believed Turkey was not qualified for EU membership because, in geographic terms, it straddles Asia; and that it is a Muslim nation.

But 63 percent said "yes" when asked if they could imagine Turkey entering the EU in the future if Ankara makes the necessary political and economic changes.

The poll of 932 French adults was taken Sept. 24-25. No margin of error was given.

In Italy, a senior official of the Italian Roman Catholic Bishops Conference said the EU should first consider European "culture," like Ukraine and Moldova, in its expansion plans before considering membership for Turkey.

From The Associated Press







## OPINION

## Despite attacks, Iraq learning to help itself

BY LT. GEN. DAVID H. PETRAEUS

**I** helping organize, train and equip nearly a quarter-million of Iraq's security forces is a daunting task. Doing so in the middle of a tough insurgency increases the challenge enormously, making the mission akin to repairing an aircraft while in flight and while being shot at. Now, however, 18 months after entering Iraq, I see tangible progress. Iraqi security elements are being rebuilt from the ground up.

The institutions that oversee them are being re-established from the top down. And Iraqi leaders are stepping forward, leading their country and their security forces courageously in the face of an enemy that has shown a willingness to do anything to disrupt the establishment of the new Iraq.

In recent months, I have observed thousands of Iraqis in training and then watched as they have conducted numerous operations. Although there have been reverses — not to mention horrific terrorist attacks — there has been progress in the effort to enable Iraqis to shoulder more of the load for their own security, something they are keen to do.

The future undoubtedly will be full of difficulties, especially in places such as Fallujah. We must expect setbacks and recognize that not every soldier or policeman we help train will be equal to the challenges ahead.

Nonetheless, there are reasons for optimism. Today approximately 164,000 Iraqi police and soldiers (of which about 100,000 are trained and equipped) and an additional 74,000 facility protection forces are performing a wide variety of security missions. Equipment is being delivered. Training is on track and increasing in capacity. Infrastructure is being repaired. Command and control structures and institutions are being re-established.

Most important, Iraqi security forces are in the fight — so much so that they are suffering substantial casualties as they take on more and more of the burdens to achieve security in their country. Since Jan. 1 more than 700 Iraqi security force members have been killed, and hundreds of Iraqis seeking to volunteer for the police and military have been killed as well.

Six battalions of the Iraqi regular army and the Iraqi Intervention Force are now conducting operations. Two of these battalions, along with the Iraqi commando battalion, the counterterrorism force, two Iraqi National Guard battalions and thousands of policemen recently contributed to successful operations in Najaf. Their readiness to enter and clear the Imam Ali shrine was undoubtedly a key factor in enabling Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani to persuade members of the Mahdi militia to lay down their arms and leave the shrine.

In another highly successful operation several days ago, the Iraqi counterterrorism force conducted early-morning raids in Najaf that resulted in the capture of several senior lieutenants and 40 other members of that militia and the seizure of enough weapons to fill nearly four 7½-ton dump trucks.

Within the next 60 days, six more regular-army and six additional Intervention Force battalions will become operational. Nine more regular-army battalions will complete training in January, in time to help with security missions during the Iraqi elections at the end of that month.

Iraqi National Guard battalions also have been active in recent months. Some



**Above:** New Iraqi border guards hold up their certificates as they chant pro-Iraq slogans Monday during a graduation ceremony at the Jordanian International Police Training Center in Musqat, Jordan. The first batch of 458 Iraqis concluded training Monday. **Below:** Also Monday, an Iraqi soldier looks at the remains of a colleague after a car bomb exploded as a seven-vehicle Iraqi National Guard patrol was passing by, in Mosul, Iraq. At least four guardsmen were killed and three others were wounded, police said.



40 of the 45 existing battalions — generally all except those in the Fallujah-Ramadi area — are conducting operations on a daily basis — most alongside coalition forces, but many independently. Progress has also been made in police training. In the past week alone, some 1,100 graduated from the basic policing course and five specialty courses. By early spring, nine academies in Iraq and one in Jordan will be graduating a total of 5,000 police each month from the eight-week course, which stresses patrolling and investigative skills, substantive and procedural legal knowledge, and proper use of force and weaponry, as well as pride in the profession and adherence to

the police code of conduct.

Iraq's borders are long, stretching more than 2,200 miles. Reducing the flow of extremists and their resources across the borders is critical to success in the counterinsurgency. As a result, with support from the Department of Homeland Security, specialized training for Iraq's border enforcement elements began earlier this month in Jordan.

Regional academies in Iraq have begun training as well, and more will come online soon. In the months ahead, the 16,000-strong border force will expand to 24,000 and then 32,000. In addition, these forces will be provided with modern tech-

nology, including vehicle X-ray machines, explosive-detection devices and ground sensors.

Outfitting hundreds of thousands of new Iraqi security forces is difficult and complex, and many of the units are not yet fully equipped. But equipment has begun flowing. Since July 1, for example, more than 39,000 weapons and 22 million rounds of ammunition have been delivered to Iraqi forces, in addition to 42,000 sets of body armor, 4,400 vehicles, 16,000 radios and more than 235,000 uniforms.

Considerable progress is also being made in the reconstruction and refurbishing of infrastructure for Iraq's security forces. Some \$1 billion in construction to support this effort has been completed or is under way, and five Iraqi bases are already occupied by entire infantry brigades.

Numbers alone cannot convey the full story. The human dimension of this effort is crucial. The enemies of Iraq recognize how much is at stake as Iraq re-establishes its security forces. Insurgents and foreign fighters continue to mount barbaric attacks against police stations, recruiting centers and military installations, even though the vast majority of the population deplores such attacks. Yet despite the sensational attacks, there is no shortage of qualified recruits volunteering to join Iraqi security forces. In the past couple of months, more than 7,500 Iraqi men have signed up for the army and are preparing to report for basic training to fill out the final nine battalions of the Iraqi regular army. Some 3,500 new police recruits just reported for training in various locations. And two days after the recent bombing on a street outside a police recruiting location in Baghdad, hundreds of Iraqis were once again lined up inside the force protection walls at another location — where they were greeted by interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

I meet with Iraqi security force leaders every day. Though some have given in to acts of intimidation, many are displaying courage and resilience in the face of repeated threats and attacks on them, their families and their comrades. I have seen their determination and their desire to assume the full burden of security tasks for Iraq.

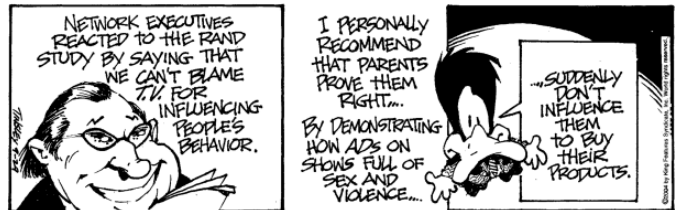
There will be more tough times, frustration and disappointment along the way. It is likely that insurgent attacks will escalate as Iraq's elections approach. Iraq's security forces are, however, developing steadily and they are in the fight.

Momentum has gathered in recent months. With strong Iraqi leaders out front and with continued coalition — and now NATO — support, this trend will continue. It will not be easy, but few worthwhile things are.

Army Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus commands the Multinational Security Transition Command in Iraq. He is currently serving as the commander of the 3rd Division, which was deployed in Iraq from March 2003 until February. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



## Bat-friendly cave

**VT** DORSET — There is a new cave protecting the entrance to Dorset Cave on Mount Aeolus, the highest known cave in New England, where up to 20,000 bats are known to spend the winter.

The \$16,625 iron gate across the mouth of the cave is designed to keep people out and protect the state's most precious bat habitat inside the limestone cave.

Several species of bats — including the rare Indiana bat and the state-endangered small-footed bat — are here after completing an annual migration to the high-elevation cave this month.

The gate closes off Dorset Cave, often explored by intrepid hikers or cavers, from Sept. 1 to June 1. Swaps are allowed to explore its guano-covered floor in the summer. A gate was built 19 years ago, but rebuilt this year to be more human-proof and bat-friendly.

## College under review

**IN** NOBLESVILLE — A judge ordered officials of Earlham College to provide financial details of its operation of the Conner Prairie museum. The 1,400-acre, living history museum draws about 300,000 visitors annually. Attorney General Steve Carter began a review of the museum's finances after Earlham fired its museum's president and 27 of its 31 board members.

## Alligator round-up

**TX** CORPUS CHRISTI — Corpus Christi Beach is used to catering to the tourist crowd with alligators — just not the scaly, four-legged kind. It took authorities more than three hours and a raw chicken to snag a 6-foot-long alligator.

Rocco Montesano, executive director of Texas Parks and Wildlife said it wasn't unusual for alligators to be in the area, but most unusual to be on the beach. The alligator, believed to be about 3 years old, was released in a more suitable, undisclosed location.

## Snake sightings increase

**NC** DURHAM — When Herb Urbens' cat, Maggie, dumped a freshly killed copperhead on his back porch, he realized his recent snake sightings were adding up.

Urbens joins the growing ranks of area residents who have noticed more serpents out and about during the past month.

Displaced by cold winds and soggy terrain during prime breeding season, the snakes are searching for higher and drier ground, slithering into dens and decks, garages and gardens.

Recently, a child-care center was closed because of snake sightings inside the building. The two serpents found inside the building later were identified as nonvenomous water snakes.

## Judge hurt in blast

**IL** FLORA — A judge was critically injured when a massive explosion destroyed his house.



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

authorities said.

The explosion also damaged several nearby homes and businesses, and briefly disrupted electric service in and near Florida.

The blast knocked Clay County Circuit Judge Alan Buck out of his house and into a field, authorities said.

Buck was treated at a local hospital and later transferred to St. John's Hospital in Springfield, about 100 miles northwest, where a nursing supervisor reported the judge's condition as critical.

Flora Police Chief Rick Perry said an investigation is under way to determine the cause of the explosion, which was heard as far as four miles away.

## Subway injuries down

**DC** WASHINGTON — Metro said the number of injuries on the subway is down. New figures show a 12-percent decrease from last year. Metro attributes the decrease to its safety education program, and good weather, which reduces slipping and falling. Bus collisions were up, though, with 65 more accidents compared to a year ago.

## Daughter charged

**NY** WALTON — A North Carolina woman was charged with killing her 95-year-old father, who authorities thought died of natural causes, more than a year ago.

New York State Police claim Colby Anne Thompson, 50, of



## Testing the pipes

Tim Cole, a solo piper from Southern Pines, N.C., plays the bagpipes during the 35th Malcolm Blue Festival in Aberdeen, N.C.

Asheville, N.C., suffocated her father in his Walton home on June 21, 2003.

Thomas Beers, manager of Lyon Bros.-Way Funeral Home in Walton, said a court had ordered the exhumation of Seth R. Thompson's body within the last month. It was examined at Albany Medical Center.

Colby Thompson was arrested for second-degree murder after state police investigators traveled to her home.

State police did not release a motive and didn't say what evidence prompted the homicide investigation.

## Replica plane crashes

**CA** FULLERTON — A replica of an antique plane crashed seconds after takeoff, just missing an airport control tower and landing into a parked car that had two women inside.

No one was killed, but a man in the plane suffered severe burns.

The 1986 Bushmaster broke apart on impact and erupted in flames, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Jerry Johnston.

The crash occurred in front of hundreds of people who were at the small Fullerton Municipal Airport in Orange County for an exhibition featuring displays of vintage and experimental planes.

## Train strikes car, kills 1

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A commuter train broadsided a car that went through a railroad crossing arm, killing the 87-year-old driver.

The 40 passengers on the train were unharmed.

The driver was headed south when he turned into the path of the northbound train, said Bob Gibbons, spokesman for Metro Transit.

Authorities identified the driver as Hilmer A. Iverson of Minneapolis. He had glaucoma and trouble hearing, according to his son, Gregg Iverson.

There were no indications Iverson was trying to beat the train, which was going about 40 mph. "Witnesses have told us that he was driving slowly," Gibbons said.

The train line, part of the city's new light rail system, was shut down for almost three hours while authorities reconstructed the accident.

## Groom dies in ATV crash

**ME** WASHINGTON — A South China man died when the all-terrain vehicle he was operating struck a rock wall, overturned and landed on him.

The accident happened just hours before the victim, 24-year-old Nicholas Tucker, was to get married.

Tucker was operating the ATV near the Washington-Palermo line when it crashed, according to the Knox County Sheriff's office. He was traveling southbound on a dirt road testing out a friend's ATV, said Sgt. Steven Burns.

Tucker expected to be gone 15 to 20 minutes and wasn't wearing a helmet. When he failed to return, his older brother went looking for him and found him under the overturned ATV.

Police listed speed and inexperience as the primary causes of the accident, which is under investigation.



## Flash dance

Dennis Graf, center, flashes the crowd during the Dayton Valley Days parade while his father, Dalos, commands the Dayton Silver Squares float in Dayton, Nev. The Grafts were helping promote their square dance club at the event.



## Corn proposal

A marriage proposal is carved in to a corn field near Napoleon, Ohio. Corey Cook paid the farmer to carve the heart and proposal into his field so it could be seen by his girlfriend, Michelle See, as they flew in a small plane to a family cabin in Indiana.



## Patriotic feline

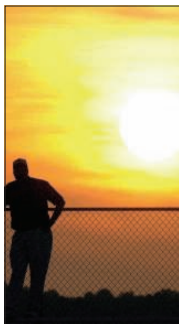
Bob Crawford of Enfield, Conn., holds his patriotic cat, Cheddar, during a pet, dog and cat expo at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston, Ma.



**Crazy for education** Cheryl Vassar, left, playing a pelican, reacts to having her costume cinched up back stage at Forest Heights Elementary School in Baton Rouge before Governor Kathleen Blanco launches a new youth education program about coastal erosion.



**Big imagination** Jay Manfreda, 7, of Sterling Heights, Mich., is outsize by a huge light bulb on display at the Thomas Edison Museum in Port Huron, Mich.



**Peaceful wait** A football fan from Dade County, Ga., waits for the start of the football game in Adairsville, Ga., as the sunsets.



**Pipeful of fun** Seven-year-old Soomin Kim enjoys the nice weather as she stops to play in a brand new drain pipe waiting to be used in River Edge, N.J.

## Boy charged with arson

**PA** SUGAR NOTCH — A 7-year-old boy was charged with arson and second-degree homicide for setting a house fire that killed a retired school guidance counselor.

Benjamin Morris, 76, died in a June 12 blaze that began on the back porch of his home in Sugar Notch, a few miles southwest of Wilkes Barre.

The house, which burned to the ground, was filled with papers and clutter, and had only one passable exit, according to firefighters.

Prosecutors declined to reveal much about the investigation, citing the boy's age.

## Recruiting rule dropped

**MS** GULFPORT — A federal judge lifted a 33-year-old order requiring the Mississippi Highway Patrol to recruit equal numbers of blacks and whites for its training programs. Public Safety Commissioner Rusty Fortenberry said he wants the best, most qualified people to serve the state's citizens, regardless of race or sex.

## Animal fund indictment

**TX** TYLER — Over the past decade, Smith County Sheriff's Department officials have raised more than \$500,000 for search-and-rescue animals but spent much of the money for other purposes, including guns and cash for undercover drug deals, according to a published report.

Jack Madera, the founder and former head of Mid-States, was indicted by a Dallas County grand jury for falsifying government documents to get a jail contract in Kaufman County.

The K-9 and Livestock Fund was set up to pay for horses and bloodhounds used in search and rescue operations, but donations were used for other purposes, including \$37,260 to buy 340 shotguns from the Texas Adjunct General's Office.

## Card player kills robber

**NY** BUFFALO — At a city social club where senior citizens gather to play cards, a 64-year-old man shot an armed robber dead, police said.

Two masked robbers carrying a shotgun and pistol entered the club and told the five people playing cards not to move, Detective Mary Gugliuzza said. The robbery went off inside the small storefront, and one card player hit the floor.

Another card player, apparently believing his friend was shot, pulled out his gun and fired, Gugliuzza said. As the robber was hit, his shotgun went off again, wounding his accomplice in the arm.

Warren Zontail, 16, of Buffalo, was later charged with first-degree robbery and weapon possession, police said.

## Owl numbers declining

**DC** WASHINGTON — Fourteen years after coming under federal protection, the northern spotted owl continues on the decline in the Pacific Northwest, a study shows.

The report said the owl, an icon of the Northwest timber wars, no longer faces the threat it once did from logging. It faces new ones, however, principally the wildfires

that rage through overgrown forests and the barred owl, a relative of the spotted owl, which rapidly is taking over spotted owl habitat in the West.

The study, conducted by a private firm for the Fish and Wildlife Service, appears to strike a blow at timber industry efforts to loosen restrictions on federal forest logging in Washington, Oregon and northern California.

Overall, northern spotted owls declined annually by about 3.7 percent from 1985 to 2003, the report suggests.

## Union recommends raise

**WA** OLYMPIA — The Washington Federation of State Employees is recommending that the 30,000 workers it represents approve a contract agreement. It calls for a 3.2 percent pay raise next year, if the Legislature approves. The union is the largest of the state unions that negotiated for the first time this year with the governor's office.

## New lottery chief

**MN** ST. PAUL — Gov. Tim Pawlenty has recruited South Dakota's lottery chief Clint Harris to take the same job in Minnesota. Harris has been executive director of South Dakota's lottery since May 2003 but was acting chief for three years before that. His selection comes nine months after longtime Minnesota Lottery head George Andersen committed suicide.

## Cell phones not allowed

**VT** BENNINGTON — The school district that covers much of southwestern Vermont is clamping down on student use of cell phones and pagers.

The latest draft of the proposal for the six districts in the Southwestern Vermont Supervisory Union would allow students to have cell phones and pagers on school property, but would require that they be turned off on buses and during school hours.

Teachers and staff are not exempt from the rules. The policy says they can only use wireless communication devices for "job-related communication" during school hours, and only if it does not disrupt the learning environment.

## School obesity centers

**NC** RALEIGH — Four Wake County high schools have created on-campus wellness centers for students and teachers as part of an effort to curb obesity in school-age children. The centers stocked with cardiovascular and strength-training equipment are the only ones in North Carolina, school officials say. A \$493,000 federal grant underwrote the centers.

## Ivan leaves pets homeless

**PA** PITTSBURGH — Soggy and mud-covered dogs and cats have poured into western Pennsylvania animal shelters after the remnants of Hurricane Ivan caused flooding across the state. A spokeswoman says the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society in Pittsburgh took in 30 animals and received as many as 70 calls from people who had either lost or found a pet.

Photos and stories from wire services



## AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first scoreboard page in the sports section or AFRTS's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.net/m/>

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

| (AFN-FAMILY)                                | (AFN-MOVIE)  | (AFN-EUROPE)     | (AFN-KOREA)   | (AFN-NEWS)              | (AFN-SPORTS)                            | (SPECTRUM)                        | (AFN-PACIFIC)                                      |
|---|--|------------------|---|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 9:00 Stanley "Little Dog" Loeb              | Movie *** "Heartbeat" (1997)   | Dr. Phil         | Popular Mechanics for Kids                              | Nightline               | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.     | 30-Minute Meals                   | Popular Mechanics for Kids                         |
| 9:30 Sawgo-Siamesset Cat                    | John Ritter, Phil DeSoto, A pregnant T-News producer is abandoned by her husband.  | Oprah Winfrey    | Strangely Dope-Blake Holsey                             | Nightly Business Report | Hardball with Chris Matthews            | Food 'n' Sensible Chic            | Strangely Dope-Blake Holsey                        |
| 10:00 Arthur (E)                            |  | Guiding Light    | Wheel of Fortune  | CNN Daybreak            |   | Fashion File                      | Headline News                                      |
| 10:30 Between the Lions (E)                 | Movie *** "The Woman in Red" (1984, Comedy) Gene Wilder, Kelly LeBrock   | General Hospital | Advisory Block  | The O'Reilly Factor     | SportsCenter                            | ESPN Live                         | The King of Queens                                 |
| 11:30 Stanley "Porgun Party"                |  | Headline News    | The Simple Life   | That '70s Show          |   | The Parkers                       | The Simple Life                                    |
| 12:00 Dora the Explorer                     | Coming Attractions   | Today Judy       | Today Today Throws a Destination Wedding, fall fashion. | Good Morning America    | Motorcycle Racing: FM Sordale Series    | Charm'd "Ex Libris"               | America's Next Top Model                           |
| 12:30 The Wiggles                           | Movie *** "Outrage" (1999) Rob Lowe. A young couple confronts a destructive love.  | Today Today      | Las Vegas "The Night the Lights Went Out in Vegas"      |                         | College Football Teams to Be Announced. | Aly McBeal "Happy Birthday, Baby" | Las Vegas "The Night the Lights Went Out in Vegas" |
| 13:00 Bob the Builder                       | Movie *** "Outrage" (1999) Rob Lowe. A young couple confronts a destructive love.  | Today Today      | America's Next Top Model                                |                         |   | Any Day Now "Chapter One"         | The Tonight Show                                   |
| 13:30 Dragon Tales (E)                      |  | Headline News    | Headline News   | Channel One             |   | ER "The Fatal Week"               |  |
| 14:00 Blue's Clues                          | Movie *** "G.I. Jane" (1991, Musical) Jean Forster, Tom Nelson. As Adrian, a deaf-blind P-juces a vivid dream for a TV producer. | Headline News    | Headline News   | The Early Show          |   |                                   |  |
| 14:30 Barney & Friends (E)                  |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | SportsCenter                            | Law & Order "Unfired"             |  |
| 15:00 Amer. Funniest Home Videos            |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | Baseball Tonight                        | The Simpsons                      | Access Hollywood                                   |
| 15:30 Full House                            |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.     | The Amazing Race                  | The Late Late Show                                 |
| 16:00 Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 3)               |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Andromeda "Into the Laboratory"   | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 16:30 Hey Arnold!                           |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 17:30 Rocket Power                          |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 18:00 SpongeBob SquarePants                 |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 18:30 Rugrats                               |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 19:00 Even Stevens                          |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 19:30 Kanan & Kai "Duh Bomb"                |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 20:00 Gilmore Girls "The Dear Hunter"       |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 21:00 Degassi: Next                         |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 21:30 Degassi: Next                         |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 22:00 The Cosby Show "Mr. Ques"             |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 22:30 Home Improvement                      |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 23:00 Touched by an Angel "Open Your Smile" |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |
| 23:30                                       |  | Headline News    | Headline News   |                         | FOX News                                | Headline News                     | Countdown With Keith Olsen                         |

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

| (AFN-FAMILY)                             | (AFN-MOVIE)   | (AFN-EUROPE)      | (AFN-KOREA)      | (AFN-NEWS)                 | (AFN-SPORTS)                               | (SPECTRUM)                      | (AFN-PACIFIC)       |
|--|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 00:00 Hey Arnold!                        | "Austin Powers: Mystery"  | (11:30) Late Show | (11:00) Today    | Headline News              | SportsCenter                               | Late Night With Conan O'Brien   | (11:00) Today       |
| 00:30 Rocket Power                       | Movie *** "Atlantic City" (1980, Drama) Burt Lancaster. A numbers runner takes possession of a drug shipment. | Access Hollywood  | Access Hollywood | NBC Nightly News           | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live) | The Amazing Race                | Sesame Street (E)   |
| 01:00 SpongeBob SquarePants              |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | ABC World News Tonight     |  | Andromeda "Into the Laboratory" | Play With Me Sesame |
| 1:00 Rugrats                             |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | CBS Evening News           |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 2:00 Even Stevens                        |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 2:30 Kanan & Kai "Duh Bomb"              |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 3:00 Gilmore Girls "The Dear Hunter"     |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 3:30 Degassi: Next                       |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 4:00 Degassi: Next                       |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 4:30 Degassi: Next                       |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 5:00 Sesame Street (E)                   |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 5:30 Barney & Friends (E)                |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 6:00 Blue's Clues                        |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 7:00 Dragon Tales (E)                    |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 7:30 Bob the Builder                     |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 8:00 The Wiggles "Safari"                |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 8:30 Dora the Explorer                   |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 9:00 Stanley "The Big Spill"             |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 9:30 Sawgo-Siamesset Cat                 |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 10:00 Arthur (E)                         |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 10:30 Between the Lions (E)              |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 11:00 Sawgo-Siamesset Cat                |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 11:30 Stanley                            |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 12:00 Dora the Explorer                  |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 12:30 The Wiggles "Vacation"             |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 13:00 Bob the Builder                    |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 13:30 Dragon Tales (E)                   |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 14:00 Blue's Clues                       |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 14:30 Barney & Friends (E)               |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 15:00 Funniest Home Videos               |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 15:30 Full House                         |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 16:00 Pokemon                            |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 16:30 Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 2 of 3)            |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 17:00 Hey Arnold! Thanksgiving           |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 17:30 Rocket Power                       |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 18:00 SpongeBob SquarePants              |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 18:30 Rugrats                            |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 19:00 That's So Raven                    |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 19:30 All That                           |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 20:00 The Heaven "Bowling for Eric"      |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 20:30                                    |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 21:00 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch         |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 21:30 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch         |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 22:00 The Cosby Show                     |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 22:30 Home Improvement                   |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 23:00 Touched by an Angel "The Big Bang" |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |
| 23:30                                    |   | Headline News     | Headline News    | Countdown With Keith Olsen |  | Headline News                   | Headline News       |

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## FACES

# The Electras get a second wind



AP photos

**Right:** Chuck Miller holds his copy of the only album made by *The Electras*, in 1961, at his home in Albany, N.Y. It is not the band's music that makes the album collectible but the fact that the bassist is Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry. Miller, a columnist for *Goldmine*, says "Their enthusiasm is only muted by the fact that they weren't that good." Above: The back of *The Electras* album features a photo of the band members, including Kerry, back row on right. This particular record sold for \$800 and bares the name of an old St. Paul's schoolmate of the *Electras*.



## John Kerry's presidential bid lends fame to his band's obscure 1961 garage rock album

BY MICHAEL HILL  
The Associated Press

**T**his could finally be the *Electras'* breakout year. Rare vinyl copies of their lone 1961 recording are fetching prices north of \$2,000, even though the band tended to stray from the beat. Two separate CD versions of that same recording are being sold after some "Behind The Music"-style intra-band squabbling.

Of course, it's not musical chops that has renewed interest in this obscure garage rock recording: it's the bassist: Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry.

"Their enthusiasm is only muted by the fact that they weren't that good," summed up Chuck Miller, an Albany-based columnist for *Goldmine* magazine who recently bought a slightly scuffed copy of the vinyl album.

The *Electras* were formed in the fall of 1960 at St. Paul's School, a tony private boarding school in Concord, N.H. The band was named for a cool-looking Buick — not the Greek mythological character — and they played the Beatles standards by Eddie Cochran and the Ventures at local school dances.

The seven members, with help from their parents, put together about \$1,000 to produce their one album in 1961. In a basement music room with a single microphone, the teen rockers ripped through covers including "Summertime Blues" and "Ya Ya."

The songs tend to sound like surf music with an overlay of boogie-woogie piano. Most tracks are instrumentals. Careful listeners can pick out the steady thump of Kerry's bass — nothing fancy, though the liner notes credit him as the "producer of a pulsating rhythm."

"Frankly, I think he and I were probably the best musicians in the band," said *Electras* pianist Jack Radcliffe, now a Boston-area newspaper editor who still performs as "Ragtime" Jack.

Kerry left the band after high school, although he reportedly strums the Spanish classical guitar on the campaign trail and is learning to play patriotic nuggets like "This Land is Your Land."

Of the 500 albums pressed, the few that have shown up on the market have sold for big money. Miller recently paid \$800 to a dealer for a less-than-mint copy that has the name of an old St. Paul's schoolmate inked on the cover. Another copy sold this year for about \$2,500, to the amazement of the old band members.

"Somebody has to be crazy to pay anything like that for the album," said Larry Rand, the *Electras'* lead guitarist and vocalist, better known as a constitutional law scholar and semiretired teacher in Connecticut.

Rand helped spearhead a remastering of the original tape now available through [www.electrasrockandroll.com](http://www.electrasrockandroll.com) for \$14. He said the reissue was essentially done as a lark now that his old bandmate is running for president.

But Radcliffe, the pianist, balked at the agreement signed by the rest of the band earlier this year, saying the maracas player and the saxophonist were being denied their fair share of proceeds.

Neither Rand nor Radcliffe have gotten feedback from Kerry about the CDs. Kerry campaign spokeswoman Juanita Scarlett confirmed the candidate has no involvement with the reissues, but said "It's not surprising that John Kerry's album is a hot commodity now. He's a man of many talents."

Rand said the original profit cuts were determined by lawyers based on contributions to the album, but the band members have since decided to share equally seven ways "in the spirit of fairness."

## Queen Latifah gets into old standards

Queen Latifah is getting a little jazzier. Five albums and 15 years after her hard-hitting hip-hop debut "All Hail the Queen," Queen Latifah is poised to release the jazz-obsessed "The Dana Owens Album," in which she sings jazz standards.



Queen Latifah

"This is definitely not a one-shot deal," the singer, whose real name is Dana Owens, said.

It was her experience in the 1998 feature film "Living Out Loud," co-starring alongside Holly Hunter and Danny DeVito, that led to her new album. She played nightclub singer Liz Bailey and sang a couple of old jazz songs.

The new album, where she tackles songs by Al Green and The Mamas & the Papas, is something of a departure for an artist whose last record was "Order in the Court," one of 1998's better efforts at combining R&B and hip-hop.

But she said she has a fully formed and finished hip-hop album in her back pocket just waiting for the right label. "I

figured I'd drop this album first," she said.

## Amy Sedaris likes the serious rolls

Amy Sedaris may be best known for triggering laughter, but the actress says she's not a personal fan of comedies.

"I hate going to see comedies and I just love serious, depressing dramas," she said. "Maybe because I do so much of it, I would be influenced in a way that I wouldn't want to be. Or, 'Wow, I had that idea five years ago. That's been done!'"

Sedaris, who portrayed Jerri Blank, a 46-year-old ex-junkie turned high school freshman, on Comedy Central's "Strangers With Candy," is reprising the role, once again donning the fat suit and false teeth — but this time for the big screen.

The film also will have cameos by such actors as Sarah Jessica Parker, Matthew Broderick, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Allison Janney and Sir Ian Holm. The series originally ran on TV in 1999 and 2000.

## Elway gets one more drive

First there was "The Drive" for John Elway, and now there's John Elway Drive.

The city of Denver unveiled the sign that renames a por-

tion of a street circling Invesco Field at Mile High before the Broncos-Chargers game, where Elway also received his Hall of Fame ring during a halftime ceremony.

Elway, who became the first Denver player inducted into the hall in August, accepted the ring during a short ceremony that Broncos owner Pat Bowlen called "the final chapter to John's long journey into the Hall of Fame."

"I had the chance to play for the greatest owner, the greatest organization, in organized sports," Elway said. "On top of that, I want to thank all the guys I played with who helped me get where I got. And I do want to say, you are the greatest fans of all time."

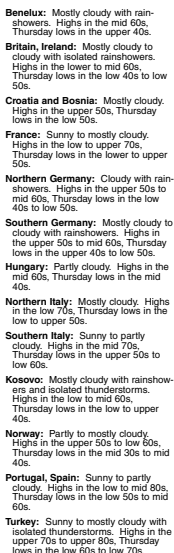
The street name change must be approved by the Denver City Council. The city hopes to eventually rename the entire street for Elway.

The stadium's new address will be 7 John Elway Drive, for Elway's jersey number when he played from 1983-1998. He retired after leading Denver to two straight Super Bowl wins.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Elway



 Cold frnt.  
  Warm frnt.  
  TROUGH Trough  
  Occluded fr.  
  Staty. front  
  (L) Low  
  (H) High





## MIDEAST



## SUN & MOON

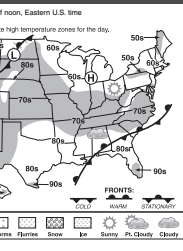
|                     | Today  | Tomorrow |
|---------------------|--------|----------|
| Sunrise (Baghdad)   | 6:56AM | 6:57AM   |
| Sunrise (Frankfurt) | 7:23AM | 7:25AM   |
| Sunset (Baghdad)    | 6:50PM | 6:49PM   |
| Sunset (Frankfurt)  | 7:08PM | 7:06PM   |

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Full moon   | Last qtr.   | New moon  | First qtr.  |

## THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



Check our Relocation Guide  
every Saturday to find  
Realtors at your new station.

**STARS AND STRIPES®**  
Your Hometown Newspaper

# Horoscope

During yesterday's full moon, our communication planet, Mercury, entered the realm of Libra. This transit, which lasts until Oct. 15, brings intellectual energy to the decision-making process. We're smart enough and mature enough to look at our problems as others might see them, able to argue their points as well as our own.

Joyce Jillion



**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (September 29).** You feel acknowledged and accepted this year. And it's a terrific feeling that gives you the confidence to raise the stakes in every area. You've got your own funny way of expressing yourself through October, and new friends totally get you. Singles date heavily through the holiday season. Couples make more of an effort to create special moments.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Don't let up now — you're almost over the hump. Though you may feel like slacking off, once you get going, your super-productive afternoon should help you see things through to completion.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** If you've been feeling sluggish, you'll get a little boost of energy to help lighten the load now. And it just gets better and better over the next few days. Tonight, give a sweetie a call. Your self-confidence will wow him or her.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Your brain and your mouth are running a million miles a minute. If it helps you with multitasking, more power to you. If not, you can put a lid on it by swatting it out via exercise, sauna or some other creative way.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Feeling a little restless? Moon-ruled crabs enjoy change and even thrive on it. So if being a homebody and screening all your calls isn't doing it for you anymore, it's time to shed your shell of shyness and face the world again.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** When your love life is kicking, you feel invincible. And when it's not, you feel compelled to heal that area of your life. Practice being pleasant. Center

your sense of self-worth on yourself instead of on how your love life is doing.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You're operating on a highly creative and productive level, and you'll soon see results. Diet and exercise must be examined with care, as health is an important piece of the "new you." An idea of huge proportions comes to you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You're filled with optimism. Just remember: It's more important to have peace of mind than to have happiness. With peace of mind, you can weather any storm. Spend time with a loved one who needs a shot in the arm.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Your slogan of the day is "Let freedom ring!" You should be able to feel the excitement build even in your most mundane activities. There's just a glimmer of something new to give everything a different perspective.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Relax. This prevents you from wasting your time and energy going down the wrong path. No matter how wrong your opinions, you profit by extending compassion. Love has highs and lows, but don't dwell on either.

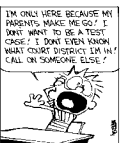
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Everything you do makes good sense. You'll receive an enthusiastic response to the project you've been working on. Don't let that stop you from doing what you need to do to improve your work and keep moving forward.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Your main opponent is boredom. Though work may be tedious, finding ways to amuse yourself should not be too difficult. Just don't let the boss catch you surfing the Internet or text-messaging your friends on company time.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Friends embark on unusual adventures. If you pursue a conversation, you'll get an earful, and it's wildly entertaining. This will inspire you to take a road less traveled journey. In general, you are able to do your own thing.

Creators Syndicate

## Calvin and Hobbes



## Jump Start



## Zits



## Cathy



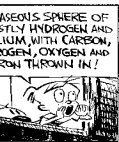
## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



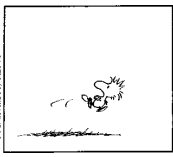
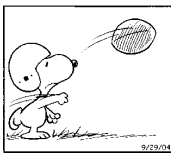
## Red Rover



## Better or Worse



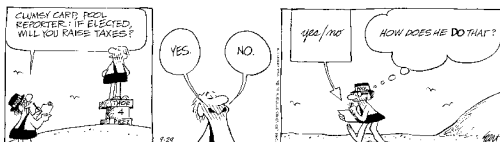
## Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



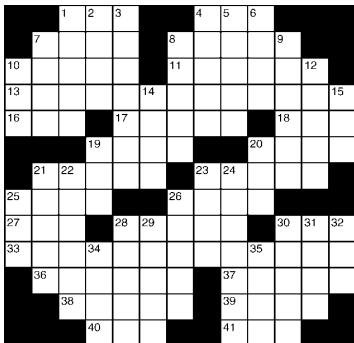
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

1 Gymnast's milieu

4 Sound

7 One who's gonna get it?

8 Kentucky Derby

10 Blue material?

11 Top, eBay-style

13 Dirt-removal tool

16 Attempt

17 Texas Hold 'Em, e.g.

18 Howl at the moon

19 Say it isn't so

20 Evans or

21 Smug smile

23 Gratings

25 Read bar codes

26 Couturier Cassini

27 Circle section

28 Beauty parlor

30 Venusian vessel?

33 Dirt-removal tool

36 Spirit de corps

37 Haste result

38 Pitcher Ryan

39 On the briny

40 Pompous sort

41 Say it's OK

## Down

1 Lenient treatment

2 Japanese indigene

3 "The show must go on" proponent

4 Energy unit

5 Michaelmas daisy

6 Singer McEntire

7 Frost

8 Stallone role

9 Legendary

10 Beetle Bailey's

11 rank (Abbr.)

12 Transactions

14 Tony Shalhoub

15 Sailing title end

19 Cacophony

20 Groove on

21 Skeddadle

22 Mark over a long vowel

23 Radiate

24 Subscription

25 Pouch

26 Mary-Kate or Ashley

28 Easter stickers

29 Hold-up man?

30 Unexpected victory

31 Greek cheese

32 Raw rock

34 Malay canoe

35 Facility

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-29

## CRYPTOQUIP

ETIBWS J ZIIUT NTJN

SCURSC NI ACUIHC J

B.E. ZYCERSCMN AC

MJHCS YIPCY UWCPCWJMS?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NEW SONDEHEIM  
 MISCELLANEOUS ABOUT A BULLYING BRITISH  
 CONSERVATIVE GANG: "WEST SIDE TORY."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals T













# Ready sets in for Jones, but Bowe fights on

**B**y now, reality should have set in for Roy Jones Jr. and his brain cleared enough to realize his sometimes brilliant career is over.

Hopefully, he's not still woozy from the punch that knocked him cold and left him on the canvas Saturday night with his eyes closed for a frightening four minutes. Hopefully, he remembers the beating that left him with a concussion and sent him to a Memphis hospital for tests on his brain.

Great champions can lose fights and come back, of course. But Jones would be wise to avoid that temptation after being knocked silly for the second straight fight, this time by a boxer who wouldn't have even touched him in his prime.

Fighters like Jones, 35, rarely understand when the end comes. They live in the past, remembering a time when youth was on their side, their skills were at their peak and everything seemed so easy.

Riddick Bowe is one of them, trying to make a comeback with the threat of brain damage all but just one big punch away.

They don't realize that inevitably time will pass them by, just as it does any athlete. The reflexes slow, they're a step slower and things that used to seem to happen in slow motion suddenly speed up.

In most sports, the penalty for hanging on too long is mere embarrassment. The injury of Willie Mays stumbling around the outfield and falling down on the base path in the 1973 World Series comes to mind.

For fighters, it's more real. The risks are a lot different than

Tim Dahlberg



whiffing at a baseball.

Think of an aging Muhammad Ali taking punishment round after round at the hands of Larry Holmes, and then look at him today.

Remember one-time heavyweight champion Greg Page coming back and nearly losing his life in a makeshift ring in Kentucky for a few thousand dollars.

Now look at Jones, whose fall from the top of boxing's best pound-for-pound fighters to basically being a short fighter was not only shocking, but shockingly quick.

It was only 18 short months ago that Jones moved up in weight to win the heavyweight title, joining Michael Spinks as one of the rare light-heavyweight champions who managed to turn that trick. He not only seemed unbeatable, but his name was moving up on the lists of the great fighters of all time.

Jones dropped back down to light heavyweight for his next fight, and Antonio Tarver gave him such a bad time that many thought Jones was dealt his first real loss. Jones tried to write it off as a bad night, but the next time the two met, Tarver starched Jones with a left hand in the second round that sent him crumpling to the canvas.

Saturday's fight against Glen Johnson was supposed to be an easy way to pick up a title again, and set Jones up for a lucrative third fight with Johnson.



Roy Jones Jr. lies in the ring after being knocked out by Glen Johnson in the ninth round of their IBF light heavyweight title bout Saturday night in Memphis, Tenn. Jones has been knocked out in his last two fights.

had the IBF title, but had won only three of his last seven fights and surely wouldn't give Jones much trouble.

Not only did Johnson give Jones a fight, he dominated it. He was leading on all three scorecards and beating Jones to the punch when he landed an overhand right and a short left that knocked Jones out cold in the ninth round.

Tarver was at ringside to watch Jones in anticipation of a third fight that now likely will never happen. Tarver tends to talk a lot, but Jones would be wise to listen to the advice he offered afterward.

"I want to see the man go on and enjoy his life after boxing," Tarver said. "We don't need to see Roy Jones go through the things he went through tonight, the times he went through on May 15. Let the man ride off into the sunset."

In boxing, it's rarely that easy.

The same night Jones may have been riding off into the sunset, another fighter of note was riding in the opposite direction.

Bowe was on the tribal reservation, where fans sat outdoors in folding seats in a park and drank tall cans of beer to watch him make an improbable comeback after eight years away from the ring.

The last time the boxing world saw Bowe he was slurring his words so badly you couldn't understand him. A doctor testified in Bowe's federal trial for kidnapping his ex-wife that he suffered from frontal lobe damage caused by taking too many punches to the head.

Like Page, though, Bowe took a look at the heavyweight division and thought he could become a contender again. He just might, because even at the age of 37 he has enough skills and punching

power left to win some fights.

Sadly, though, the risks outweigh the rewards for Bowe. He joked and traded barbs with reporters after his second round knockout of Marcus Rhode, but doctors fear he is just one punch away from further brain damage or even worse.

The reality for Jones is that he's finished, done, through. He's rich, has nothing left to prove in boxing and can return to his well-paying job from HBO as a ringside commentator.

The reality for Bowe is that some day, probably soon, he will run into a fighter who punches back and his comeback will be over.

The only thing true boxing fans can hope for is that both face off to their individual realities before someone really gets hurt.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: tdahlberg@ap.org

# Bryant defense team drops bid to seal evidence

The Associated Press

**DENVER** — Kobe Bryant's attorneys abruptly dropped a bid to seal evidence in the NBA star's rape case Monday, saying the details would be leaked anyway and that releasing all the documents will reveal how unprofessional the prosecution was.

In a scathing court filing, defense attorney Pamela Mackey alleged "unlawful or improper conduct" by law enforcement officers and prosecutors in the case, including the leaking of information and suppression of evidence suggesting Bryant was innocent.

Prosecution spokeswoman Krista Flannigan said prosecutors were evaluating the filing. She declined further comment. District Attorney Mark Hurlbert dropped the felony sexual assault charge against Bryant at the alleged victim's request Sept. 1.

He recently said evidence in the case should be released, saying the public's interest in reviewing actions and decisions by prosecutors and the district outweighed Bryant's privacy concerns.

There was no immediate indication whether District Judge Rich-

## Sports briefs

Eagle.

Bryant still faces a federal civil suit filed by the accused, seeking unspecified damages for pain, suffering, "public scorn, hatred and ridicule."

## Hornets forward Mashburn out for the season

**NEW ORLEANS** — Former All-Star forward Jamal Mashburn will miss the entire 2004-05 NBA season because of a knee injury that could end his career.

Mashburn and the New Orleans Hornets announced the news Monday, a week before the start of training camp.

The injury kept Mashburn, a 10-year veteran, out of all but 19 games last season after he underwent surgery to remove loose particles from his right knee. Mashburn said strenuous activity causes the knee to swell as badly as it did last March, when his season ended. He averaged 20.5 points.

During a news conference, Mashburn acknowledged the inju-

ry could end his career, which began in 1993 as a first-round draft choice of the Dallas Mavericks. He also had a stint with the Miami Heat before joining the Hornets in 2002 and making the All-Star team during the 2002-03 season.

## Hurricane keeps Singh from making Ireland trip

**THOMASTOWN, Ireland** — Vijay Singh withdrew Monday from the American Express Championship, wanting to stay home with his family in Florida and cope with the damage left by Hurricane Jeanne.

This will be only the second time a World Golf Championship does not have the No. 1 player in the world. Most of the top players, including then-No. 1 Tiger Woods, declined to go to Australia after the holidays for the 2001 Accenture Match Play Championship.

## Virginia loses DE Canty for rest of season

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va.** — Virginia senior defensive end Chris Canty will undergo knee surgery and miss the remainder of the season.

The 6-foot-7, 290-pound Canty was injured late in 12th-ranked Virginia's 31-10 victory over Syracuse on Saturday. The exact nature of the injury was not disclosed.

Canty was a second-team all-Atlantic Coast Conference selection each of the past two years. He led ACC defensive linemen with 86 tackles in 2002 and 104 tackles in 2003.

## Mercury's Taurasi wins WNBA Rookie of Year award

**PHOENIX** — Diana Taurasi of the Phoenix Mercury was a runaway selection Monday as the WNBA's rookie of the year.

Taurasi became the second No. 1 overall draft pick to win the award, joining Chamique Holdseley of Washington in 1999.

The point guard was fourth in the league in scoring (17.0), 10th in assists (3.9) and 14th in minutes played (33.2), while also averaging 4.4 rebounds and 1.2 steals.

## 174 NHL players now in Europe

**TORONTO** — Dmitri Afanasev of the Stanley Cup champion Tampa Bay Lightning became the latest NHL player to head to

Europe, agreeing on Tuesday to return home to Russia during the lockout.

The wing will play for Lada Togliatti of the Russian league.

Afanasev now has six goals and 10 assists in 71 regular-season games last season and a goal and two assists in 23 playoff games.

There are 174 NHL players in Europe, about 25 percent of the league's roster spots. Most of those players have clauses in their contracts that permit them to return to the NHL if the labor impasse ends in time to salvage a season.

The Czech league leads the way with 49 players, including Jaromir Jagr of the New York Rangers, followed by Sweden at 40 and Russia at 38.

## U.S. soccer captain Reyna likely out for up to a month

**MANCHESTER, England** — United States team captain Claudio Reyna will probably miss the next two World Cup qualifiers because of an injured left quadriceps.

Reyna is in doubt for the World Cup qualifiers at El Salvador on Oct. 9 and the game against Panama in Washington, on Oct. 13.



Chicago quarterback Rex Grossman ruptured a knee ligament on Sunday and will miss the rest of the season.

## Key players seem more prone to injuries in the early going

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

So many NFL teams are losing key players this season that making the playoffs might be a matter of survival.

If there haven't been more injuries so far this season, there are certainly more important players getting hurt.

Two weeks ago, Carolina lost Steve Smith and Stephen Davis, two of its top offensive threats. Last week the injury epidemic struck Cleveland's Kerry Winslow Jr., Gerard Warren and Courtney Brown.

It was so bad that coach Butch Davis brought trainer Mike Czelowski to a news conference.

Also lost were Deuce McAllister, the Saints' star running back, and Pittsburgh quarterback Tommy Maddox.

Two more quarterbacks were seriously injured Sunday: Chicago's Rex Grossman is gone for the season with a knee injury and Oakland's Rich Gannon has a broken vertebra in his neck that will keep him out for at least eight weeks.

Even the indestructible Brett Favre disclosed after Sunday's loss in Indianapolis that he has an injury to his left shoulder, although he insisted it won't end his NFL record streak of 192 regular-season starts at quarterback.

"If it was my right one, I wouldn't be playing," Favre said. "But I feel like Mel Gibson in 'Lethal Weapon.' It's just kind of loose and kind of wobbles around, and pops out from time to time. As long as it pops back, I'm OK."

Put Tennessee's Steve McNair, the NFL's co-MVP, in the same category. He left Sunday's game with Jacksonville with a bruised chest and will remain hospitalized until Tuesday, although he could play on Sunday.

Butch Davis said last week he had seen a list of players lost for the season with almost 200 names on it.

The NFL says there is no such list, although the league issues public injury reports from Wednesday through Friday and it tightened the reporting guidelines for teams during the preseason.

"The weekly reports have been a cornerstone of the public's confidence in the NFL for decades," Commissioner Paul Tagliabue wrote in a memo to all 32 coaches. "Clubs are expected to issue information that is credible, accu-

rate and specific within the guidelines of our policies."

The epidemic started during the exhibition season.

Two top offensive linemen — Washington's Jon Jansen and St. Louis' Kyle Turley — were lost for the season, as was Miami wide receiver David Boston. Anquan Boldin of Arizona, last year's offensive rookie of the year, is out indefinitely with a knee injured in camp, and another young receiving star, Detroit's Charles Rogers, was lost for the season a week ago for the second straight year with a broken collarbone.

Pro Bowl middle linebacker Brian Urlacher of the Bears, who already have lost safety Mike Brown for the season, missed all the exhibition games with a hamstring injury, then was idle for the first time in his five-year career Sunday after aggravating it.

In addition to Grossman and Gannon, this week's injury list includes Tampa Bay running back Charlie Garner, Philadelphia fullback Jon Ritchie and Cincinnati middle linebacker Nate Webster, all out for the season with knee injuries. Garner joins Bucs starting wide receiver Joey Galloway on the sideline.

Ritchie's injury is another blow to the running back corps of the Eagles, the only team to win all three games this season by double-digit margins. Correll Buckhalter, who was to split duties at running back with Brian Westbrook, was lost for the season in training camp.

Some teams have overcome injuries the way New England did last season. The Patriots won the Super Bowl despite having a

dozen key players sidelined at various times. Oakland has the luxury of having Kerry Collins, who guided the Giants to the 2001 Super Bowl, to replace Gannon.

Other teams get by with less-proven backups.

Carolina, for example, lost Smith, its best receiver, in its opener and also went without Davis, its starting running back, at Kansas City. The NFL champions won that game with DeShaun Foster running for 174 yards in Davis' place and rookie Keary Colbert catching three balls for 46 yards, including a 9-yard touchdown, as Smith's replacement.

"I felt good about the people that were stepping in," coach John Fox said. "There are no red-shirts here, everybody has got a scholarship."

Baltimore, without Pro Bowl tight end Todd Heap, turned Sunday to its old standby, Jamal Lewis, who ran for 186 yards in a 23-9 win in Cincinnati. Heap might miss three more weeks with a sprained ankle.

And Pittsburgh, which lost Maddox for at least six weeks with an elbow injury, got a decent debut from Ben Roethlisberger, the 11th overall pick in last April's draft, in its 13-3 win over the Dolphins.

Roethlisberger was intercepted on his first pass, but finished 12-of-22 for 163 yards and threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Hines Ward.

"Ben played well," coach Bill Cowher said. "After the first play when he threw the interception, he bounced back. After that he made good decisions."

That's this year's solution: Go with whoever remains standing and hope for the best.



Raiders QB Rich Gannon (12), hurt against Tampa Bay on Sunday, will be sidelined for at least eight weeks with broken vertebra in his neck.

## Collins to replace injured QB Gannon

The Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Rich Gannon might lose a second straight season to injury.

The 2002 NFL MVP has a broken vertebra in his neck that will sideline him at least eight weeks. The Oakland Raiders quarterback underwent an MRI on Monday and was taken to more tests.

Coach Norv Turner didn't believe Gannon was at risk for paralysis and said the quarterback was walking around the team's training facility before receiving the news. Turner said Gannon will wear a hard neck brace for six weeks.

"He will be out an extended period," Turner said. "It's disappointing. ... It makes you sick to your stomach when you play your guys as much into it as Rich has."

The injury gives the starting job to Kerry Collins, signed by the Raiders in the offseason. Collins had an impressive preseason and directed the Raiders on four winning drives in the 30-20 victory over Tampa Bay on Sunday night, going 16-of-27 for 228 yards and one touchdown.

"It's obviously a big part of the reason we did what we did during the offseason," Turner said.

Turner said it would be premature to speculate whether Gannon would end up on injured reserve for the second straight season. He had told his team about Gannon's status before the Raiders broke team meetings for the day Monday. Gannon was unavailable for comment Monday.

The 38-year-old Gannon left in the first quarter Sunday night after taking a helmet-to-helmet hit from Derrick Brooks.

### Bears QB Grossman out for year with torn ACL

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Rex Grossman knew his season was over the second it happened.

Chicago's quarterback will miss the rest of the season after rupturing a ligament in his right knee during Sunday's loss to Minnesota.

"In a split second, I knew I was out for the year," Grossman said Monday. "It's devastating."

The young quarterback's loss is a severe blow to a team that has struggled with injuries this season, but managed a 21-10 upset at Green Bay in Week 2.

Backup Jonathan Quinn, who signed with the Bears in March, will start. Chad Hutchinson on Monday also agreed to terms on a two-year deal contingent on Hutchinson, who played 10 games two seasons ago with the Cowboys before being waived, passing a physical.

Grossman is expected to undergo surgery in a couple of weeks and will face seven to 10 months of rehabilitation.

Grossman was injured as he scored on a 6-yard scramble. He left the stadium wearing a brace

### NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by teams' prognosis for upcoming games. See Friday's edition for complete injury report provided by the league.

**Browns:** RB Lee Suggs (neck stinger) cleared to practice.

**Buccanners:** RB Charlie Garner (torn knee) tender out for season.

**Colts:** S Dariusz Bazilek (groin) status unknown; WR Brandon Stokley (hip) expected out for season.

**Eagles:** FB Jon Ritchie (torn knee ligament) out for season.

**Giants:** RB Don Payne (clank) status unknown.

**Lions:** RB Kevin Jones (high ankle sprain) expected to miss 2-4 weeks.

**Packers:** QB Brett Favre (shoulder, hamstring) to play.

**Vikings:** LB LB Henderson (sprained left knee), CB Matt Birk (sprained left calf), CB Matt Birk (sprained left calf).

**Wizards:** RB Matt Birk (sprained left hand) all four expected to play Oct. 17 after team's off week.

and using a crutch. An MRI exam confirmed the anterior cruciate ligament tear along with damage to other knee ligaments.

### Bruised sternum puts McNair's status in some doubt

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Steve McNair has no serious injuries, but the NFL's co-MVP for 2003 spent Monday night in a hospital with a bruised sternum.

The Tennessee Titans' quarterback was scheduled to be released from the hospital Tuesday.

"He's just very sore," coach Jeff Fisher said Monday after McNair underwent tests.

McNair is the seventh starter injured, plus four backups, for a team that went 12-1 last season in reaching the playoffs for the fourth time in five seasons. His status is the most urgent topic for the Titans after two straight losses at home.

The Titans (1-2) won't have safes James Schulters, tight end Erion Kinney and defensive end Joshua Thomas, who will be listed as out for Sunday's visit to San Diego (1-2). McNair will be listed as questionable.

After losing 15-12 to Jacksonville on Sunday, McNair spent the night in the hospital because he was unable to take deep breathes without pain. He spent 75 minutes in the trainer's room during the game with a bag of ice on his chest.

### Rivers moves up Chargers' depth chart to No. 2

SAN DIEGO — Philip Rivers just got a lot closer to taking his first snap with the San Diego Chargers.

Rivers was promoted from third-string quarterback to No. 2 on Monday, a day after Drew Brees was ineffective in a 23-13 loss at Denver that dropped the Chargers to 1-2.

Coach Marty Schottenheimer said Brees remains the starter. But if Brees were to get hurt — or get the hook — Rivers, the \$40.5 million rookie, would get the call over 31-year-old Doug Flutie, who's now No. 3.

"I'm not sitting here all fired up like I've achieved something," Rivers said. "I'm pleased that I've made some progress, obviously, and shows some signs that they feel that I'm ready to be in that position."

# Rally: Parcells keeps his edge on Gibbs

## RALLY, FROM BACK PAGE

Brunell was 25-for-43 for 325 yards, including 167 yards and two touchdowns to Gardner.

The Cowboys lost cornerback Pete Hunter to a sprained left knee in the first quarter, and Parcells said the injury might be a season-ending ACL tear. Hunter was replaced by rookie Jacques Reeb.

In the first half, the officials nearly overshadowed the coaches. Parcells and Gibbs each used a replay challenge in the first 7½ minutes, and Gibbs tried to use another one on a play that was declared non-reviewable. Both first-half scoring drives benefited from questionable calls.

Asked about the officiating, Gibbs said, "There are probably 100 plays in that thing that you wish you could have back or have gone the other way, but that's life up here."

Parcells was more blunt: "This challenge thing is a joke in the head coaches. You have to go up upstairs, and it's hard. It's just blind faith."

The key play on Dallas' touchdown drive was a pass interference call on cornerback Walt Harris, who stumbled as he was

grabbed by Glenn as both chased a long pass down the right side line. Harris was caught for putting his hand up while failing in a desperate bid to impede Glenn, resulting in a 40-yard penalty that gave Dallas the ball on the 1.

Parcells scored on the next play on a run by Eddie George, whose streak of 130 consecutive starts came to an end. The streak is an NFL record from the start of a career. His touchdown was only the second allowed by the Redskins defense this season.

The Redskins rebounded to score late in the first half thanks to a beneficial call by Clinton Portis' knee was clearly down by contact short of the first down after a reception, but he was allowed to get up and run for a 12-yard gain. Brunell then made three big completions to move the ball to the 1, but the Cowboys' defense held Washington to a 19-yard field goal by John Hall.

Dallas struck quickly to take a 14-3 lead early in the third quarter, going 80 yards in four plays. Antonio Bryant stepped in front of cornerback Fred Smoot for a 48-yard reception, then Testaverde drove Keyshawn Johnson over the middle for a 23-yard gain. On the next play, tight end Timmy Allen was open in the back corner of the end zone for a 10-yard TD catch.

The Redskins struck back immediately for their third touchdown, although they needed a roughing-the-passer call on a fourth-and-1 incompleting. Wiley was the drive alive. Marcellus Wiley was called for the infraction for shoving Brunell with a forearm to the head, giving Brunell second life on a drive in which he was 6-for-7, including a 1-yard throw to Gardner for the score.

## NFL scoreboards

| American Conference |      |   |   |   |       |    |    |  |  |
|---------------------|------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|--|--|
|                     | East | W | L | T | Pct   | PF | PA |  |  |
| New England         | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 65 | 52 |  |  |
| N.Y. Jets           | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 65 | 52 |  |  |
| Buffalo             | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 65 | 52 |  |  |
| Miami               | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 65 | 52 |  |  |
| Jacksonville        | 1    | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 35 | 28 |  |  |
| Indianapolis        | 1    | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 35 | 28 |  |  |
| Houston             | 1    | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 35 | 28 |  |  |
| Tennessee           | 1    | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 35 | 28 |  |  |
| Baltimore           | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 56 | 42 |  |  |
| Pittsburgh          | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 56 | 42 |  |  |
| Cincinnati          | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 56 | 42 |  |  |
| Cleveland           | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 56 | 42 |  |  |
| Denver              | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 63 | 44 |  |  |
| Oakland             | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 63 | 44 |  |  |
| San Diego           | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 63 | 44 |  |  |
| Kansas City         | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 63 | 44 |  |  |

## National Conference

|               | East | W | L | T | Pct   | PF | PA |  |  |
|---------------|------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|--|--|
| Philadelphia  | 3    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 88 | 67 |  |  |
| San Francisco | 3    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 88 | 67 |  |  |
| N.Y. Giants   | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 64 | 55 |  |  |
| Washington    | 2    | 0 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 64 | 55 |  |  |
| Atlanta       | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 61 | 39 |  |  |
| New Orleans   | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 65 | 73 |  |  |
| Oakland       | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 65 | 73 |  |  |
| Tampa Bay     | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 65 | 73 |  |  |
| Detroit       | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| Minnesota     | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| Chicago       | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| San Diego     | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| Seattle       | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| St. Louis     | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |
| San Francisco | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0 | .667  | 61 | 62 |  |  |

| Sunday's games   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Philadelphia 35, Detroit 13  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N.Y. Giants 27, Cleveland 10   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Houston 24, Kansas City 21   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orleans 28, St. Louis 25   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jacksonville 15, Tennessee 12  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atlanta 23, Cincinnati 10  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota 27, Chicago 22   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| San Francisco 34, Indianapolis 45                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Green Bay 31, Seattle 14   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pittsburgh 13, Miami 7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oakland 26, Tampa Bay 20   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carolina 20, Buffalo, New England, N.Y. Jets, Dallas 21, Washington 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Monday's game                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Dallas 21, Washington 13     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oakland at Houston           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Philadelphia at Chicago      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N.Y. Giants at Green Bay     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cincinnati at Pittsburgh     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New England at Buffalo       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indianapolis at Jacksonville |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| San Francisco at Cleveland   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orleans at Arizona       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atlanta at Carolina          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N.Y. Jets at Miami           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tennessee at San Diego       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Denver at Tampa Bay          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seattle at San Francisco     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oakland at Seattle           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Monday, Oct. 4               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kansas City at Dallas        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Detroit at Atlanta           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| San Francisco at Dallas      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota at Houston         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indianapolis at Miami        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Miami at New England         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cleveland at Pittsburgh      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Buffalo at New York Jets     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jacksonville at San Diego    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carolina at Denver           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arizona at San Francisco     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Baltimore at Washington      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Philadelphia at Tennessee    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Monday, Oct. 11   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Tennessee at Green Bay  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dallas at Washington  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Monday, Oct. 11   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Washington 9, Dallas 7  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First Quarter   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dal—George I run (Cundiff kick), 4:01.                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Second Quarter  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dal—Witten 10 pass from Testaverde (Cundiff kick), 8:47.        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Was—Gardner I pass from Brunell (Hall kick), 4:46.              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Third Quarter   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dal—Glenn 26 pass from Anderson (Cundiff kick), 13:00.          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Was—Glenn 15 pass from Brunell (Glenn pass from Brunell), 4:30. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Monday, Oct. 11        |       |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|-------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Washington 9, Dallas 7 |       |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First Totals           |       |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Yards            | 287   | 284   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Passing                | 214   | 204   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rushing                | 73    | 29    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Punting                | 8-47  | 3-18  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kickoff Returns        | 4-65  | 3-70  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Punt Returns           | 1-10  | 0-0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blocked Kicks          | 15-30 | 25-43 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blocked Punts          | 0-0   | 0-0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fumbles-Lost           | 3-0   | 4-0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Penalties-Yards        | 5-40  | 7-67  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Individual Statistics |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Rushing               | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Receiving             | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Passing               | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Punting               | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Kicking               | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Blocked Kicks         | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Blocked Punts         | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Fumbles-Lost          | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |
| Penalties-Yards       | 11-68 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 | 20-126 |

| Cardinals' starters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Cardinals' starters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Cardinals quarterback Josh McCown is sacked by Falcons defensive end Patrick Kerney on Sunday. Despite three fumbles in the game, McCown will remain Arizona's starting quarterback.

# McCown still starter for punchless Cards

BY MEL REISNER

The Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. — Despite being benched after three fumbles against Atlanta, Josh McCown is still the Arizona Cardinals' starting quarterback.

After Dennis Green's track record with Minnesota, McCown might not have a lot of time to learn the position — the coach used seven different quarterbacks to get the Vikings to the playoffs eight times.

Green said Monday that McCown needs to learn how to make better reads on when to scramble and when to get rid of the ball.

"You just have to make sure you're protecting the ball, particularly in a hard-hitting game," Green said. "It was hard-hitting on both ends, so Michael Vick was disappointed in the ones he lost, and Josh was disappointed in the ones he lost."

Green said McCown has to temper his athleticism, which makes his scrambles a threat, with better feel for pressure.

"There will be times when a defense will give you a look you don't anticipate or somebody misses a block — whatever the case may be — and you've just got to get rid of the ball," he said.

McCown was 20-for-26 for 198 yards, completing 13 consecutive passes at one point, but wasn't able to guide the offense to a touchdown in a 6-3 loss to the Falcons. Two of McCown's fumbles and one by wide receiver Karl Williams occurred inside Atlanta's 20-yard line.

The Cardinals (0-3) got the ball back on Adrian Brown's interception after McCown was benched for the fifth time and lost the ball for the third time. Shaun King replaced McCown under center with 11:35 left in the game.

The Cardinals gained 6 yards in three plays before Neil Rackers kicked a 30-yard field goal.

Green has been trying to im-

prove the offensive line since waiving center Pete Kendall the day training camp opened and said better blocking would help.

"We can work hard and also have some replacements. We'll look at both areas," Green said.

"It is surprising it's taking us this long to tie together," right tackle Antonio Clement said. "I would've thought this would have happened a long time ago."

Cardinals were in relatively good position to at least tie the game when Williams got the ball to the Falcons 7 on a reverse with 2:26 left, but he sustained a stinger when he was hit by Chris Draft and couldn't hang onto the ball.

"He lost feeling in the arm and the ball came out," Green said.

"You know, you create your good luck, and bad luck is something that can happen to you. We did not create any good luck yesterday, but we did have a few bad-luck plays, and that was one of them. He's had that stinger before, and got hit right there."

Green didn't expect Williams to miss any time this week and said the team was in relatively good health except for backup defensive tackle Ross Kolodziej, who will be out two to three weeks with a sprained ankle, and linebacker James Darling, who left the game with a concussion.

Green said wide receiver Anquan Boldin, last year's NFL rookie of the year who had arthroscopic surgery on his right knee after a warmup-exercise injury on Aug. 11, should be able to return sometime between mid-October to Nov. 1. Boldin's absence has hampered the development of the offense and forced rookie wideout Larry Fitzgerald, the No. 3 pick in this year's draft, to endure near-perpetual double coverage.

The Falcons held Fitzgerald to 36 yards and five catches.

"That's something you're going to see in this league every week," Fitzgerald said. "I am physical enough to get off the line of scrimmage."



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# A new defense mechanism

## Switch to 4-3, free-agent additions help Falcons take pressure off Vick

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — Maybe the Atlanta Falcons aren't a one-man team after all.

While Michael Vick commands most of the attention, the defense should get the bulk of the credit for the Falcons' 3-0 record — their best after three games since 1986.

"To me, there's nothing better than good defense," first-year coach Jim Mora, a former defensive coordinator, said Monday. "I'll take good defense over good offense any day."

Vick was certainly impressed after Sunday's 6-3 victory over Arizona. He struggled most of the game, but the defense held on by recovering three fumbles inside the Atlanta 20.

"It was the best defensive game I have ever seen as the Atlanta Falcons quarterback," Vick said. "Ed Donatelli (the defensive coordinator) and coach Mora put together a great scheme."

Granted, the Falcons were playing one of the worst offensive teams in the league. Arizona has scored only 25 points and two touchdowns while losing its first three games.

But no one in Atlanta is complaining, not after what happened last season. The Falcons gave up a staggering 6,106 yards — an average of nearly 382 per game — and the most in franchise history.

"I can tell you that our goal was not to go from 32nd to 31st," defend-

side end Patrick Kerney said. "We knew a huge turnaround needed to be made. We've still got 13 games to go. We need to play better defense than we have so far to be the team we need to be."

The first three games are a good start. The Falcons have cut their average yards to 293, which would equate to 4,688 over a full season. More important, they're giving up just 13 points a game, less than half of what they surrendered in 2003.

Why such an improvement? There are several factors, ranging from key free-agent signings (tackle Rod Coleman and cornerback Jason Webster) to switching back to four down linemen on the defensive front.

Atlanta used a 3-4 alignment the past two seasons, but that didn't suit the style of play favored by the 273-pound Kerney and the other end, 274-pound Brady Smith.

Both are quick enough and relentless enough to beat offensive tackles on the outside. But the 3-4 required them to lock up with much bigger linemen, relinquishing their pursuit of the quarterback to create space for the four linebackers to make plays.

"When I told them we were going to play the 4-3, that gave them a little lift," Mora said. "We're playing to their strength more when we line them up outside the tackles. They're not being asked to stand up 330-pound tackles. They're doing what they're built to do."

### Defensive posture

After three games, Atlanta's defense has improved markedly from last season. Here's a look at some key defensive categories, with averages and NFL rank in parentheses:

| 2003       | Category  | 2004       |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| 391.1 (32) | Yards     | 293.0 (11) |
| 26.4 (30)  | Points    | 13 (13)    |
| 144.3 (29) | Rush yds. | 61.3 (2)   |

Coleman has provided a tremendous lift as well, teaming with Ed Jasper to create plenty of problems on the interior line. Coleman caused two fumbles by Arizona quarterback Josh McCown, recovering one himself. Smith also caused McCown to fumble with a blindside hit early in the fourth period.

A fifth-round pick in 1999, Coleman struggled to find a role in Oakland. He was used at both end and linebacker during his rookie season, finally settling in at tackle. He started only 21 games during five years with the Raiders, making him feel like he's got plenty of productive seasons ahead of him.

"I haven't taken five or six years of pounding on the inside," the 28-year-old Coleman said, grinning.

The Falcons were eager to turn things around after last season's embarrassing performance. Coleman noticed right away that the holdovers had no desire to go through another 5-11 record, and he was similarly inspired after the Raiders plummeted to 4-12 in 2003.



Atlanta linebacker Chris Draft (54), second from right, and safety Scott Bryan (24), right, converge on Arizona running back Emmitt Smith, who gained only 45 yards on 18 carries in the Falcons' 6-3 win on Sunday.

"They were all saying they had a bitter taste in their mouth about what happened last year," he said. "I felt the same thing in Oakland. No one likes to lose."

Atlanta has been especially tough against the run, giving up only 61.3 yards a game. The passing numbers are more troubling: opposing quarterbacks have completed more than 71 percent of their attempts.

But Mora's not too concerned. The Falcons have been playing a lot of soft zones, willing to concede short passes to avoid giving up big plays.

That was a huge problem last season; Atlanta surrendered 51 passes that went 20 yards or more, including eight touchdown plays of at least 32 yards.

"We want to put a shell around things," Mora said. "It's not the prettiest thing to watch, but I've told our defensive players to be patient. It's hard for a team to go 80 yards when they're throwing a bunch of quick outs."

Mora hasn't had any trouble watching the first three games. "There's nothing better," he said, "than good defense."

# Seahawks have the inside line on stinginess

BY TIM KORTE

The Associated Press

KIRKLAND, Wash. — You'd have to be a real NFL die-hard to recognize names like Cedric Woodard, Rocky Bernard, Marcus Tubbs and Rashad Moore.

Who are they? Just the guys who set the tone for Seattle's high-flying defense. The tackles all excelled in Seattle's 34-0 win over San Francisco on Sunday.

"The defensive line sets the table for everybody else," coach Mike Holmgren said Monday. "It all starts up front. When they do their job, the linebacker's job is easier. So is the secondary's."

One day after the Seahawks ended San Francisco's streak of not being shut out for 420 regular-season games, the focus remained on Seattle's defense. The 49ers' NFL-record streak dated to Oct. 9, 1977.

It's going to be tough to avenge this week's defensive game ball.

Cornelback Ken Lucas and free safety Ken Hamlin each had an interception while end Chike Okefor not a sack. Linebacker Isaiah Kacyienko made five tackles led the team, and Bernard had a sack and Moore a fumble recovery.

Woodard scored a hat trick: a sack, forced fumble and recovery on one play. The five-year veteran knows he's not exactly a household name, but he's most of the men on the interior of Seattle's line.

"We just try to make stuff happen inside," Woo-



Seattle defensive tackle Cedric Woodard, holding ball, celebrates with Grant Wistrom, center, and Chike Okefor, right, after recovering a fumble that helped the Seahawks shut out San Francisco on Sunday.

dard said. "Nobody really knows us, but we'll just try to go out and make a name for ourselves each week. We're determined to show we're good enough to play in this league."

The Seattle defenders got a big lift at halftime, when coordinator Ray Rhodes encouraged them to continue being aggressive and promised he would call a game that let them pressure the 49ers.

"I'm pleased with this as a group," Holmgren said. "There really was a good enthusiasm there. When it looked like we could get the shutout, they got excited about it. The sideline was alive."

Bernard, in his third NFL season, is the biggest surprise of the bunch. After a promising rookie year, he was slowed by injuries in 2003.

# Undefeated Jaguars seek offensive revival

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Jacksonville Jaguars are 3-0 for the first time since 1998. Adding to coach Jack Del Rio's excitement level is his belief the offense is going to get better.

Jacksonville has its managed 35 points in its first three games, yet it's allowed only 28 and the Jags have won three squeakers, most recently 15-12 at Tennessee on Sunday. Del Rio terms the offense "a work in progress."

"I believe the guys are working hard at doing the things they need to do to be successful," Del Rio said Monday. "I remain encouraged that we're heading in the right direction, that we'll continue to develop. It's a young group. I think they'll get better with time together."

Jacksonville hosts Indianapolis this Sunday; the Colts are averaging 33.3 points per game, and scored 45 in their Week 3

victory over Green Bay.

"We've been fortunate to get off to a fast start," Del Rio said. "We've had a strong commitment to team. Guys understand what it means to be selfless."

Jaguars quarterback Byron Leftwich had his best effort of the season Sunday against the Titans, completing 14 of 20 passes for 124 yards and one touchdown. Leftwich has seemed most comfortable in the shotgun, the primary formation he used as a star at Marshall.

Yet utilizing the shotgun on a regular basis might preclude running back Fred Taylor from getting his customary number of touches, and that worries Del Rio.

"We want to run the football and you're limited in what you can do in the running game out of the shotgun," Del Rio said. "When you have a guy like Fred Taylor, you're not going to just sit in the shotgun. So we'll do a little bit of both."



Jacksonville QB Byron Leftwich has led two late game-winning touchdown drives in three weeks this season.



## Major League Baseball scoreboard

## American League

| East Division | L  | Pct  | GB  |
|---------------|----|------|-----|
| x-New York    | 97 | 62.7 |     |
| x-Boston      | 92 | 60.3 |     |
| Baltimore     | 75 | 41.7 | 22½ |
| Chicago       | 68 | 42.9 | 29  |
| Toronto       | 65 | 41.9 | 31½ |

## Central Division

|             |    |      |     |
|-------------|----|------|-----|
| y-Minnesota | 66 | 57.7 |     |
| Chicago     | 77 | 50.6 | 11  |
| St. Louis   | 60 | 49.0 | 19½ |
| Detroit     | 69 | 44.5 | 20½ |
| Kansas City | 59 | 36.5 | 33  |

## West Division

|           |    |      |    |
|-----------|----|------|----|
| Oakland   | 89 | 57.1 |    |
| Astoria   | 84 | 56.4 |    |
| Seattle   | 86 | 50.1 | 3  |
| San Diego | 86 | 48.5 | 29 |

x-clinched playoff spot

y-clinched division

## Monday's games

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Atlanta @ Baltimore            |  |
| Los Angeles @ New York Yankees |  |
| Chicago White Sox @ Detroit    |  |
| Boston @ Tampa Bay             |  |
| Anaheim @ Texas                |  |
| Cleveland at Kansas City       |  |
| San Diego @ Oakland            |  |

## Wednesday's games

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Chicago White Sox @ Oakland (11) at Detroit (Johnson 8-4)     |  |
| Toronto @ Cincinnati (4) at Baltimore (Chen 1-1)              |  |
| Minnesota @ Kansas City 20-0 at N.Y. Yankees (Lindorff 10-15) |  |
| Anaheim @ Pittsburgh (16-4) at Texas (Hendrickson 10-15)      |  |
| Anaheim @ Washington (11-4) at Texas (Hendrickson 10-15)      |  |
| Cleveland (Dennett 1-1) at Kansas City (Anheims 5-1)          |  |
| Seattle (Madritsch 5-3) at Oakland (Hardin 11-6)              |  |

## Thursday's games

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Detroit @ Tampa Bay, DH          |  |
| Anaheim at Texas                 |  |
| Seattle at Oakland               |  |
| Toronto @ Baltimore              |  |
| Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees        |  |
| Chicago White Sox at Kansas City |  |

## Monday

## Angels 5, Rangers 3

| ANAHEIM  | AB | R | H | E | TEXAS  | AB | R | H | E |
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| Villafra | 1b | 2 | 2 | 1 | Texas  | 1b | 4 | 0 | 1 |
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## Tigers 4, White Sox 2

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# Red Sox lock up return to playoffs

## Damon leads charge vs. Devil Rays

The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Amid a boisterous clubhouse celebration, the Red Sox wanted to make one thing clear: Their party was just beginning.

"This is step one. It's been a long trip, but we're here," General Manager Theo Epstein said after Boston clinched its second straight trip to the playoffs with a 7-3 victory Monday night over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

"Now it's time to go to work. Everything that lays ahead of us is important. ... We're a very talented team. I think it's a confident group. We feel we can go up against anyone and hold our own. I hope we're playing for another five weeks."

Assured of no worse than the AL wild-card, the Red Sox closed within three games of the AL East-leading New York Yankees with six games remaining.

Players shook hands and ex-



changed hugs and high-fives after the final out, then hustled into the clubhouse where they ran around, spraying one another with champagne, posing for pictures and dancing to hip-hop music.

When the champagne ran dry, they doused each other with beer and water.

To a man, though, the Red Sox stressed that they are not satisfied with just being in the playoffs.

"We spent four months being a team of friends," 21-game winner Curt Schilling said. "I guess not a lot of people were expecting us to get to this point. There was a lot of uncertainty in the middle of the season the way we were playing, and rightfully so. But I think we all expected at some point to be in this position."

The Red Sox rallied from a 2-0 deficit on Johnny Damon's three-run homer, then put some distance between themselves and the Devil Rays on Manny Ramirez's AL-leading 43rd homer, a 458-foot blast that soared over the center-field wall.

Jason Varitek and David McCarty also homered, with all of the damage coming after Tampa Bay starter Scott Kazmir was ejected for hitting Ramirez and Kevin Millar with pitches in the fourth inning.

Tampa Bay manager Lou Piniella also was tossed after Kazmir plunked Ramirez and Millar in a span of four pitches. The first one appeared to be retaliation for Boston's Bronson Arroyo hitting Aubrey Huff and Tino Martinez the previous inning.

Kazmir, who held the Red Sox hitless for 3 1/3 innings, said he was not throwing at anyone.



Oakland's Bobby Crosby hits a sacrifice fly to score the winning run in the ninth inning Monday.



Boston Red Sox's Johnny Damon, right, gets high-fives from teammates Kevin Youkilis, left, and Dave McCarty, center, after hitting a fifth-inning, three-run home run against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday. The Red Sox became the fourth team to clinch a playoff spot with the 7-3 victory in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"I didn't see why I wouldn't stay in the game," he said. "I was just doing what I had been doing all along — throwing inside."

Arroyo (10-9) has hit 20 batters this season, most in the major leagues. The right-hander settled down after giving up Julio Lugo's RBI double in the second inning and a sacrifice fly to Rocco Baldelli in the third to win his fifth straight decision and improve to 8-2 since ending a six-game losing streak on July 9.

**Athletics 6, Mariners 5:** After Barry Zito gave up a tying three-run homer to Willie Bloomquist, Oakland bounced back and maintained its one-game lead over Anaheim in the AL West.

Bobby Crosby's sacrifice fly with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning scored pinch-runner Esteban German with the winning run.

Oakland (89-67) was coming off consecutive losses to the Angels.

Ichiro Suzuki was 1-for-4 to

pull within five hits of George Sisler's 84-year-old record of 257. Seattle has six games remaining.

Octavio Dotel (5-2) pitched a perfect ninth, getting two strikeouts and Mark Kotsay's clutch catch at the center-field wall on a hard-hit ball by Jose Lopez.

**Angels 5, Rangers 3:** At Arlington, Texas, Chone Figgins had an RBI triple off Kenny Rogers (17-9) in the eighth and scored the go-ahead run on Darin Erstad's infield grounder.

Bartolo Colon (17-12) allowed four hits in eight-plus innings, winning for the 12th time in 16 decisions and becoming the first pitcher to beat Texas six times in a season. Troy Percival escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth for his 31st save.

**Blue Jays 4, Orioles 1:** Gregg Zaun homered and Orlando Hudson had three hits at Baltimore, which had won four straight. The Orioles (74-81) are assured of their seventh straight season without a winning record.

Pitching in his third major league game, hard-throwing Brandon League (1-0) allowed one hit in 2 1/3 scoreless innings, and Miguel Batista got three outs for his fourth save. Sidney Ponson (11-15) gave up three runs and nine hits in six innings.

**Tigers 4, White Sox 2:** Dmitri Young hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the sixth at Detroit, which stopped a 22-inning scoreless streak and a five-game losing skid.

Gary Knotts (6-6) allowed two runs and five hits in 6 1/3 innings, and Esteban Yan got two outs for his sixth save, finishing a six-hit-ter.

Jason Grilli (2-2) pitched a three-hitter for his first complete game in 13 major league starts. Joe Crede homered, giving Chicago six players with 20 for the first time in franchise history.

**Indians 6, Royals 1:** Casey Blake drove in three runs, and Jake Westbrook (14-9) gave up five hits in seven innings at Kansas City. Jaime Cerda (1-3) was the loser.

# Players' union fighting Angels' suspension of Guillen

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The players' association filed a grievance Monday seeking to overturn the Anaheim Angels' suspension of left fielder Jose Guillen.

Guillen was suspended without pay for the rest of the season on Sunday because of his outburst after being lifted for a pinch runner a day earlier in Anaheim. The suspension would continue into the postseason if the Angels advance that far.

The case will be heard by arbitrator Shyam Das in Oakland on Friday, the day the Angels start a regular season-ending series against the AL West-leading A's.

"It's something that has to be brought out in front of an arbitrator, and that's the appropriate setting," Stoneham said before the start of a four-game series in Texas. "Jose's conduct that followed [being lifted] was the bulk of it. ... There was stuff seen publicly and stuff that wasn't."

Guillen was hit by a pitch opening the eighth inning of Saturday's 5-3 victory over Oakland. Manager Mike Scioscia sent Alfredo Amézaga in to pinch run.



Guillen

After he walked off the field as the A's changed pitchers, Guillen tossed his helmet toward the side of the dugout Scioscia was standing in and walked to the opposite side of the dugout. He then slammed his glove against the wall.

Guillen was not with the team in Texas, where the Angels entered the series just a game behind the Athletics. Guillen's agent, Adam Katz, has declined comment.

**Lawsuit filed over Bonds' 700th home run ball**

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Giants fan who caught Barry Bonds' 700th homer is being sued by another man who says he is the rightful owner of the prized ball, which he main-



tains was stolen from him during a mad scramble.

According to a restraining order to be filed in state court Tuesday, Timothy Murphy said Steve Williams stole the historic blast from him during a melee in the left-center field bleachers at SBC Park on Sept. 17.

Williams said in an interview that he did not steal the ball but found it at the bottom of the heap of people.

"We all got in this pile. There were people everywhere," the 26-year-old from Pacifica said, adding that he did not kick or punch anybody to obtain the baseball.

**A's Mulder gets Friday start**

OAKLAND, Calif. — Struggling ace Mark Mulder will start for the Oakland Athletics on Friday as planned after the team discussed going with September call-up Joe Blanton instead.

Oakland finishes the season with a three-game weekend series against Anaheim, which began Monday one game behind the first-place A's in the AL West.

On Aug. 24, Mulder became the majors' first 17-game winner.

Since then, he is 0-3 with a 7.71 ERA in six starts. The A's are trying for a fifth straight trip to the playoffs.

"We're going to go with our ace," pitching coach Curt Young said. "He's got a class to his game. Even though he's struggling a bit. Those kind of pitchers rise to the occasion."

# Dodgers closing season strong

## Beltre's slam brings first playoff berth since '96 within reach

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Dodgers are closing in on their first playoff berth in eight years, and they're not about to leave their chances to fate.

"It's not meant to be," Adrian Beltre said. "You have to earn it."

He and the Dodgers are doing just that. Beltre hit a grand slam, Milton Bradley singled home the winning run in the ninth inning and Los Angeles

edged the Colorado Rockies 8-7 Monday night, increasing its NL West lead to three games over idle San Francisco with six remaining.

The Dodgers have not reached the postseason since 1996, one year after winning their last division title. They haven't even won a playoff game since '88, when they upset Oakland in the World Series.

But they've been a charmed team this season, rallying for 50 comeback victories and winning 23 times in their final at-bat.

"If you're going to do things like that you have to have step-up, clutch performances," manager Jim Tracy said.

Nobody has been more clutch than Beltre, who hit his third slam of the season. He leads the major leagues with 48 home runs, tying Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt's record for third baseman set in 1980 with Philadelphia.

"He's never been a guy who could really carry a team on his back or change the complexion of a game until this year," Rockies starter Shawn Estes said. "In the past, if you made a good pitch, you could make him hit a groundball or pop it up to the infield or something. But he's locked in this year."

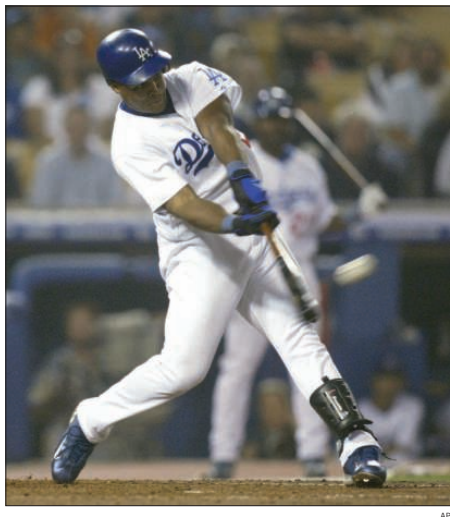
Los Angeles came back after trailing 7-5 in the eighth. Ylenny Brazoban (4-1) earned the win by getting one batter, Vinny Castilla. The Dodgers used seven pitchers.

"That's usually the way these stolen base games go," Colorado manager Clint Hurdle said. "That's a reshuffled bullpen they have and they no-hit us the last five innings. They're doing the things you need to do to put you in the postseason."

Steve Reed (3-8) gave up one-out singles to Jayson Werth and Steve Finley in the ninth, putting runners at the corners. Beltre was intentionally walked and the Rockies pulled their ace in, but Bradley slapped a hard grounder past second baseman Aaron Miles to score Werth.

Castilla and Brad Hawpe homered for the Rockies. Todd Helton went 3-for-5 with three RBIs.

**Astros 10, Cardinals 3** At Houston, Roy Oswalt (19-10) became the NL's first 19-game winner, and the Astros remained



**The Dodgers' Adrian Beltre connects for a grand slam in the second inning against the Colorado Rockies on Monday in Los Angeles. Beltre leads the majors with 48 homers.**

1½ games behind Chicago in the wild-card chase.

Pinch-hitter Jason Lane homered and Craig Biggio hit a two-run double. Carlos Beltran added a two-run triple, and Morgan Ensberg had a two-run double.

The NL Central-champion Cardinals had their five-game winning streak stopped. Second baseman Tony Womack left in the seventh after being hit on the left hand by a pitch from Oswalt. X-rays were negative. Woody Williams (11-8) gave up eight runs and 10 hits in three innings.

**Diamondbacks 3, Brewers 1** At Phoenix, Randy Johnson struck out 10 in seven innings and Arizona snapped a six-game losing streak with a win over Ben Sheets (11-14).

Johnson (15-14) walked one in his 13th double-digit strikeout game of the season

and 204th of his career — 11 shy of Nolan Ryan's major league record. The Big Unit allowed one run and six hits.

**Pirates 6, Phillies 1** At Philadelphia, Ty Wigginton hit a two-run homer, and Oliver Perez (11-10) pitched 6½ strong innings, eliminating the Phillies from postseason contention. Eric Milton (14-5) fell to 3-3 with nine no-decisions since the All-Star break.

**Marlins 4, Expos 1** At Montreal, Josh Beckett (8-9) pitched seven sharp innings, and Miguel Cabrera hit his 31st homer for Florida. The Marlins, eliminated from playoff contention one day earlier, ended a season-high six-game losing streak.

Only 3,923 fans showed up for the opener of what is likely the Expos' final series in Montreal. Armando Benitez got his 45th save in 49 opportunities.

# MLB officials: Announcement of Expos to D.C. likely Thursday

By RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Washington's wait could be almost over.

Exactly 33 years after the Washington Senators played their final game, the nation's capital might learn on Thursday that Major League Baseball plans to return next season.

Several baseball officials said Monday that the most likely day for an announcement that Washington, D.C., has been selected for the future home of the Montreal Expos is Thursday, although there was a slight chance the timetable could be moved up.

After a meeting of the sport's executive council last Thursday, a high-ranking baseball official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said Major League Baseball would attempt to finalize negotiations with Washington within a week. It would be the first franchise relocation in the major leagues since the expansion Washington Senators became the Texas Rangers after the 1971 season.

The deal to move the Expos to Washington would be subject to government approval of funding for both a \$13 million refurbishment of RFK Stadium and a new ballpark costing slightly over \$400 million, which would be built along the Anacostia River in the southeast section of the city.

A move also might be approved by three-quarters of major league owners and survive legal challenges by the Expos' former limited partners and possibly by Baltimore owner Peter Angelos, who objects to having a team just 40 miles from his. Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, went to Baltimore on Friday to negotiate a compensation arrangement with Angelos.

The Orioles owner told The (Baltimore) Sun that he could be persuaded to drop his opposition if he could be assured that his team and the state of Maryland's investment in Oriole Park at Camden Yards could be protected.

"If these two goals can be accomplished, and I feel the franchise would be secure and the revenue stream is protected and the asset value is secure, it might be possible to make a deal," Angelos told The Sun for a story Tuesday.

The original Washington Senators played 4,610 home games before becoming the Minnesota Twins after the 1969 season, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The expansion Senators played 883 home games before moving to Texas.

# Walker chips in 4 RBIs as Cubs zero in on wild card

By NANCY ARMOUR

The Associated Press

**CHICAGO** — Todd Walker loves playing pressure baseball this time of year.

Walker went 3-for-4 with a walk, a two-run homer and four RBIs on Monday night, helping the Chicago Cubs extend their slim lead in the NL wild-card race with a 12-5 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

"This is a lot of fun for me. For every team, really," Walker said. "The playoff atmosphere brings out the best in you."

With six games left, Chicago is a game ahead of San Francisco in the wild-card standings. Houston, which beat St. Louis 10-3 Monday, is 1½ back.

"We'd feel a lot better if San Francisco and Houston were about five games back," Walker said. "The good thing is we don't have to worry about what they do. If we win these next six games, we're in."

Cory Patterson, Derek Lee and Jose Macias also connected, and Nomar Garciaparra was 3-for-3 with a walk and a pair of RBIs.

Carlos Zambrano (16-8) won his fourth straight decision, allowing one run and five hits while striking out seven in 6½ innings.

The Reds tagged Todd Welleremeyer for four runs in the eighth, including Adam Dunn's 43rd homer. Dunn also struck out in the first inning, leaving him four shy of Bobby Bonds' single-season mark of 189.

Walker made the playoffs for the first time in his nine-year career last season, coming up big for the Boston Red Sox as they

took the New York Yankees to seven games in the AL championship series. He hit 249 in the playoffs and became the first Boston player to hit five homers in a postseason.

Walker enjoyed the playoffs so much he passed on starting jobs elsewhere to sign with Chicago. Now the Cubs are hoping he'll help them in their quest for their first back-to-back postseason appearances since 1905. The last time they won a World Series.

To get there, the Cubs are going to need more nights like

this from their offense. After managing just seven runs in their three-game series with the Mets, the Cubs jumped on Brandon Claussen (2-7) early.

Garciaparra got it started with a two-run double off the wall in center in the first, and the Cubs chased Claussen with five runs in the fourth. Walker stroked an three-run single up the middle, and Michael Barrett made it 4-1 on a fielder's choice. Two batters later, Patterson hit a two-run homer off the wall, and the Cubs won with a solo home into the bushes in center, giving Chicago a 7-1 lead.



## SPORTS



Red Sox clinch wild card,  
still have sights on Yankees,  
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# Dallas derails rally



FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM/KURT

Dallas defenders Tony Dixon (24) Jacques Reeves (35) and Terence Newman (41) stop Washington wide receiver Laveranues Coles (80) at the 1-yard line late in the second quarter. The Redskins had first-and-goal but had to settle for a field goal.

## Redskins run out of time, fall to Cowboys

BY JOSEPH WHITE

The Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. — No one will mistake this game for the great Bill Parcells-Joe Gibbs duels of the 1980s, but the drama definitely was back when the rivalry resumed.

The Dallas Cowboys couldn't turn the ball and were dominated in time of possession. The Washington Redskins allowed five sacks and were hurt by early penalties and drops and wasted second-half timeouts.

It added up to a 21-18 victory Monday night by Parcells' Cowboys over Gibbs' Redskins.

"How many times in this era are you going to see coaches like that come together?" said Dallas safety Tony Dixon, who had two sacks. "It's an honor that we'll be able to look back and see a classic game and see Parcells and Gibbs on the sidelines — and hopefully see some of the plays I made."

In their first meeting in 14 years, Parcells showed he still has Gibbs' number. The Dallas

coach has won 12 of 18 meetings and seven in a row against the Hall of Fame coach, the rest coming when Parcells' New York Giants and Gibbs' Redskins were strong NFC East rivals from 1983-90.

"It wasn't pretty," Parcells said. "But we're happy to win on the road. Anytime you can come some place on a Monday night, in a rivalry like this, and you're able to win, you have to be happy."

In the end, Parcells pulled the final trick: a halfback option that produced the last touchdown for the Cowboys (2-1). Gibbs, meanwhile, was left to rue two wasted timeouts and another lost on a failed replay challenge. With just one more timeout, the Redskins (1-2) would have had a chance to kick a tying field at the end.

"I feel bad because I'm the guy who is supposed to get it done," Gibbs said. "It's still early. We're 1-2, and there are a lot of good teams that are 1-2 right now."

The victory, Dallas' 13th in its past 14 meet-

ings with Washington, made Parcells the 10th NFL coach to win 150 regular-season games.

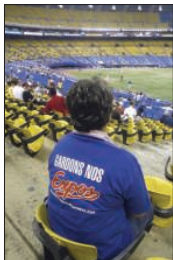
The trick play was a pass from running back Richie Anderson that floated into the hands of Terry Glenn in the back of the end zone early in the fourth quarter, giving the Cowboys a 21-10 lead and enough cushion to survive a Redskins comeback.

Mark Brunell, playing one week after straining his hamstring in a loss to the Giants, cut the lead to three when he hit Rod Gardner for a touchdown pass and Taylor Jacobs for a 2-point conversion with 4:30 to play.

But the Cowboys were able to use all but 21 seconds on the clock on their final drive because Washington was out of timeouts. The Redskins managed two plays in the dying seconds, ending with a 46-yard pass to Gardner at the Dallas 21. Time expired because Gardner could not get out of bounds.

Vinny Testaverde was 14-for-29 for 214 yards for the Cowboys.

SEE RALLY ON PAGE 31



Announcement  
on Expos' future  
likely to come  
on Thursday

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Despite being 3-0,  
Jaguars remain  
'work in progress'

Page 32



Hospitalized McNair  
joins growing list  
of injured stars

Page 30

Bowe ignoring warning signs made clear to Jones Page 29

